

RG 823

The Alberta
Agricultural Fairs
Association

ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 1915-16



PUBLISHED BY THE ASSOCIATION

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ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Alberta Agricultural Fairs Association
For the Years 1915 and 1916

OFFICERS:

Honorary President

HON. DUNCAN MARSHALL, Minister of Agriculture.....Edmonton

Honorary Vice-President

H. A. CRAIG, Deputy Minister of Agriculture.....Edmonton

President

E. L. RICHARDSON.....Calgary

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J. COOK.....	Cochrane
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H. MACKINTOSH.....	Macleod

Secretary-Treasurer

E. J. FREAM.....Calgary

Alberta Agricultural Fairs Association

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

The Eleventh Annual Convention of the Alberta Agricultural Fairs Association was held at the Hotel McDonald, Edmonton, on Wednesday and Thursday, March 1st and 2nd, 1916, the following being present:—

President E. L. RICHARDSON, of Calgary, who presided at all meetings of the Convention.

HON. A. L. SIFTON	Premier of Alberta
HON. DUNCAN MARSHALL	Minister of Agriculture
HON. J. R. BOYLE	Minister of Education
PROF. J. B. REYNOLDS	President, Manitoba Agricultural College, Wpg.
PROF. BRACKEN	Saskatchewan Agricultural College, Saskatoon
PROF. HOWE	Dean, Alberta Agricultural College, Edmonton
MR. H. A. CRAIG	Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Edmonton
MR. ALEX. GALBRAITH	Superintendent Fairs and Institutes, Edmonton
MR. CLEMENTS	Deputy Supt. Fairs and Institutes, Edmonton
JOB MACE	Vermilion
N. O. JACK	(North Alberta) Colinton
W. J. HOOVER	Camrose
B. MATKIN	(Deseret) Magrath
H. WOOD	(Deseret) Magrath
V. E. FORESTER	Camrose
J. WILSON	Milnerton
J. E. HARRIS	Cardston
J. R. RANSOM	Nanton
H. E. McDANIEL	Daysland
A. GREER	Athabasca
H. B. BECKER	Lesser Slave Lake
W. CROWE	Cochrane
J. W. McNICOL	Lethbridge
W. J. WILLIAMSON	Fort Saskatchewan
E. D. Le RICHE	Sedgewick
A. HAY	Manville
E. W. BJORKELAND	Red Deer
R. A. HOPKINS	Stavely
H. McCLEERY	Vegreville
F. W. WATKINSON	Irma
J. A. WEBER	Provost
C. WEIDENHAMMER, M.P.P.	Stony Plain
J. A. HINCHLIFFE	Nakamun
G. A. SMITH	Wainwright
S. R. BOWERMAN	Wainwright
W. MARTIN	Kitscoty
A. McLEAN	Wainwright
P. AUVE	St. Albert
GEO. BRYAN	Consort
A. B. McGORMAN	Innisfail
A. M. McQUARRIE	Oyen
G. L. ECKER	Vulcan
T. A. SUNDAL	Taber
M. GABLER	Rocky Mountain House
O. BUSH	Edmonton
M. G. CHRISTIE	Bowden
S. C. SWIFT	Viking
W. H. WALLACE	Viking

A. V. WHITE	Viking
J. MEEKS	Raymond
K. KNIGHTS	Priddis & Millarville
D. J. DICKSON	Innisfree
P. R. REED	Didsbury
J. COOK	Cochrane
S. MOORE	Innisfail
H. MACKINTOSH	Macleod
E. S. McRORY	Crossfield
J. T. DAY	Red Deer
E. STEVENSON	Highland
D. CLARK	Gleichen
GEO. GOW	Pincher Creek
J. M. FERGUSON	Swalwell
E. HINKLEY	Ponoka
J. E. MERRIFIELD	Alix
S. W. MILBANK	Rocky Mountain House
G. R. FARMER	Castor
A. E. QUAYLE	Carmangay
D. G. S. THOMSON	(Lousana) Hays
W. PETERS	Trochu
H. HUXLEY	Lloydminster
P. ROBERTSON	High River
W. R. WEST	Edmonton
CAPT. H. J. ANGELL EVANS	(Central Alberta) Lacombe
R. PATERSON, M.P.P.	Macleod
J. A. McCOLL, M.P.P.	Chinook
J. G. CLARK	Irma
L. PROUDFOOT	Chinook
W. J. ELLIOTT	Olds
W. GILBERT	Stony Plain
G. HOADLEY, M.P.P.	Okotoks
R. W. GLOVER	Vulcan
W. C. TURNBULL	Onoway
G. H. McINTYRE	Gadsby
J. A. EDGSON	Westlock
F. S. LEFFINGWELL, M.P.P.	Warner
S. G. TOBIN, M.P.P.	Leduc
A. R. ENNIS	Leduc
C. D. ENMAN	Wetaskiwin
C. E. NANCEKIVELL	Athabasca
A. TINGLEY	Lloydminster
F. W. ARCHER, M.P.P.	Innisfail
L. SINCLAIR	Walsh
B. H. D'ARCY	Strome-Killam
W. CRACKLES	(North Alberta) Colinton
J. J. RICHARDS	Red Deer
F. W. LAYCOCK	Edson
A. C. ROBERTSON	Edmonton
F. H. WHITESIDE, M.P.P.	Coronation
G. A. FORSTER	Berry Creek
M. A. BLODGETT	Empress
E. J. FREAM, Secretary	Calgary

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. E. L. Richardson, at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 1st, 1916, who stated in part:—

Gentlemen:—

I see that everyone is now registered and I hope everybody has a copy of the programme, as from a perusal of same I am sure all will agree that we will have an interesting session. In connection with the programme there is one disappointment that I have to announce and that is, about two or three months ago I suggested to Mr. Norman S. Rankin, of Calgary, that he, at our convention, show us the slides that he had in connection with

the Panama Pacific Exposition. I thought possibly that quite a large number of our members would not have been able to get to San Francisco and see the Exposition there and Mr. Rankin said he would have them here, but last night, on account of serious illness at home, he notified me he could not leave home. I have found out since that Mrs. Rankin was taken suddenly ill with pneumonia and we are very sorry he is not able to be here. I called him up before leaving Calgary and he said everything was ready and he would be up on Monday night's train and he had no idea until Monday night that he could not come and be with us here to-day.

I will now call upon Mr. W. R. West, President of the Edmonton Exhibition to say a few words to the Convention.

Mr. West:

Mr. President and Gentlemen: It is something new to me to get up and talk to a number of people, it is out of my calling altogether, but gentlemen, I have great pleasure in welcoming you and in giving you a hearty welcome to Edmonton at this the Eleventh Annual Convention of The Alberta Agricultural Fairs Association and I hope you will enjoy yourselves here. I only wish to give you a very hearty welcome and present you with the key, if I had it, of the City. Gentlemen, I have great pleasure in welcoming you here to Edmonton.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Mr. Richardson:

The next order of business will be the passing of the minutes of the previous meeting. They are printed and are a part of the annual report and as each society and the delegates have received copies, if it meets with your approval it will be in order for someone to offer a resolution adopting the annual report and the minutes as printed.

Moved by Mr. B. Matkin, seconded by Mr. Knights: That the minutes of the last annual meeting be adopted as printed. Carried unanimously.

ADDRESS BY MR. GALBRAITH

Mr. Richardson:

We are asking the Honorable Duncan Marshall to address the joint convention to-night so that he will probably only say a few words to this convention this morning when he arrives. I will now ask Mr. Galbraith, Superintendent of Fairs and Institutes to address us.

Mr. Galbraith:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Convention: I appear before you this morning somewhat at a disadvantage, from the fact that I am only a recent resident of the Province as you know. I took office here about six months ago and I am just getting into harness and getting acquainted and I hope we shall get better acquainted as the convention progresses. In my position as superintendent of the Fairs and Institutes, it is my object to help out in every possible way in carrying out the excellent programme and policies of previous years and not only that but suggesting improvements where I think improvements can be made. I do not like to come into this position and turn over things, I think it is very bad taste, and usually very bad policy to do so, but I think there are times when suggestions and changes might be made to the advantage of all. I have had, as some of you know, considerable experience as an exhibitor at fairs, and also as a judge both in this country and the Old Country, as well as the United States and from time to time I hope from my past experience, to be of some little benefit in giving suggestions or making some slight changes or alterations in the mode of conducting those fairs, or in improving the classifications that may be of benefit. I am in hopes of being able to do that in a moderate way.

Last night, I came up to the Executive Committee meeting with a list I had prepared in company with Mr. J. D. Smith, my predecessor in office, a list of the fairs I had mapped out to be held during the next fall, with their respective dates, and I had it all nicely laid out on a number of sheets of paper and I thought all I had to do was to submit them to the Committee and they would be O.K.'d and everything would soon be over and settled.

However, we had a meeting lasting until midnight and when we got through, the sheets of paper looked like a new map of Europe after the Germans had over-run it. It was changed from top to bottom, but it wasn't like the condition of Europe in this respect the changes were all for the better, whereas the changes in Europe are certainly not for the better just now.

There are one or two things which occur to me as most essential in the conduct of fairs which I might speak of, not that they are novel or perhaps very valuable. One of the first essentials to a successful fair is harmony and active co-operation on the part of those interested. I have seen fairs in the United States that were successful from year to year and others again that were failures right along on account of something always happening. Now you naturally seek for the reason of those different conditions, and it lies either in the management or in the support or the lack of support that is given to the management. I have in mind one county fair, the Walworth county fair in Wisconsin, which for the last twenty-five years has had a great name all over the State and yet they have changed their secretary a dozen times but they never seem to get the wrong man. A secretary is put in temporarily for a short time and in that respect it is different from the custom of county or district fairs in general, but that secretary has always been loyally backed up by the Directors and other supporters of the fair, so that their annual fair has proved a splendid success from year to year. In the earlier days of that fair it was only a great crowd of people that assembled without live stock of any great value being shown, but as time went on they saw the necessity of doing more than simply providing a big meeting place, and after improving the stock, and getting well-known judges, and putting more money into their prize list they made a more substantial fair until to-day it is the best county fair in the State of Wisconsin. Now this co-operation in my opinion is the first essential in all fairs and I am glad to know in this Province, so far as I can find out, there has been general co-operation and harmony existing in the Fairs Association and Agricultural Societies. The matter of fixing suitable dates is a difficult one, I can easily see that. It is difficult to arrange to hold fairs always just when you want them held or when the parties immediately interested want them held, without incurring too much expense. In the dates I submitted last night I had a good many fairs down for Mondays and Saturdays but I found Mr. Fream and some others were opposed to that. I suppose they thought that farmers could not hold a fair on Monday because they would not have got off their Sunday clothes, and Saturday was too near to the next Sunday. In the United States I have found it somewhat popular to hold fairs on Saturdays because farmers came to town on Saturday anyway. However, Mondays and Saturdays were largely cut out of last night's programme and we have confined the dates mostly to four days in the week, namely:—Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, but of course that means additional expense to the Government in furnishing judges. You doubtless realize that the distances sometimes are great and that judges can only attend two fairs in a week. It of course, comes to be quite expensive and we have to keep that in view in making our arrangements. I do not think I need take up your time further just now, I am very glad as I say, to meet you again and hope to become better acquainted with you to-day and to-morrow.

You must remember one thing; while a fair might not always be the financial success that you wish it to be, you may have quite a successful and beneficial fair without it being much of a financial success, and some of these so-called financial successes, if you really call them so, are really not successes in the true sense of the word. I have known fairs that brought in a lot of money from year to year and yet were not successful because they were not helpful to the community and did not serve the purpose for which they were organized. I remember at the State Fair in Wisconsin one year, the main attraction advertised in advance was that two locomotives were to be started in opposite directions on the track and were to come together, and many thousands of people came there purposely to see this sight. I remember another fair at St. Louis I was at twenty years ago—it was a very large fair and there were probably about a hundred thousand or more in attendance. The main attraction there was a couple getting married in

front of the grand stand, then going up in a baloon for the first time to spend their honeymoon. You must remember, in those days there wasn't as much flying in the air as there is now. Perhaps that happy couple have been **up in the air** ever since. Now, my point is this—These shows that attract a great crowd for any unusual spectacle are not very material to the success of a fair, whereas if you come out anywhere near even and do something in the way of improving the live stock or farm products of the district you are doing good work. Sometimes the weather is bad of course, and this last fall it was very wet in many cases, and that is a condition that will seriously injure any fair or any outdoor gathering. However, you must not, gentlemen, lose heart on that account, you must keep in mind what Shakespeare wrote nearly four hundred years ago—"It is not in mortals to **command** success but we'll do more, Sempronius, we'll deserve it."

The Chairman:

We are very glad to have heard from Mr. Galbraith and to receive his long experience in exhibition work, as it has been most interesting. We will now proceed to the next order of business, which is the consideration of the Financial Report. I will ask the Secretary to read same to you.

FINANCIAL REPORT

THE ALBERTA AGRICULTURAL FAIRS ASSOCIATION

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for the Twelve Months Ending 31st December, 1915

RECEIPTS—

Cash on Hand 1st January, 1915	\$ 319.71
Provincial Government (Grant for the Year 1915)	1,000.00
Membership Fees	440.00
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	\$ 1,759.71

DISBURSEMENTS—

Printing	\$ 145.50
Annual Report	\$130.00
Schedule of Fairs	10.50
General Printing	5.00
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	\$145.50
Postage and Telegrams	\$ 26.66
Exchange on Checks and Money Orders	9.52
Multigraphing and Stationery	19.69
Audit Fees	25.00
Badges	17.85
Convention Expenses	502.90
Stenographer	45.30
Delegates Expenses to Annual Meeting	338.35
Directors' Expenses	119.25
	<hr/>
	\$502.90
Sundry Expenses	4.50
Secretary's Salary	200.00
Cash in Bank	808.09
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	\$ 1,759.71

Calgary, 25th February, 1916.

We beg to report that we have examined the foregoing Statement of Receipts and Disbursements with the accounts and vouchers produced for our inspection and hereby certify, that in our opinion, the above statement is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the cash transactions of the Association for the year ended 31st December, 1915.

SCOTT & STUART, Chartered Accountants.

The Secretary:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: In connection with the Annual Report, I beg to inform you that the membership fees of \$440 in the receipts are made up by subscriptions from the following societies:—

Kitscoty	North Alberta	Leduc
Viking	Lesser Slave Lake (2 yrs)	Carmangay
Strome-Killam	Hanna	Innisfail
Nakamun	Irma	Manville
Gadsby	Delia	Vegreville (2 years)
Edmonton	Munson	Provost
Priddis & Millarville	Claresholm (2 years)	Paddle River
Bowden	Gleichen	Magrath
Didsbury	Swalwell	Cochrane
Calgary	Crossfield	Edson
Lloydminster	Daysland	Coronation (2 years)
Chinook	High River	Chauvin
Consort	Carbon	Westlock (2 years)
Stavely	Taber	Rumsey
Nanton	Edgerton	Holden
Irvine	Vermilion (2 years)	Hays (2 years)
Three Hills	St. Albert	Red Deer
Elk Point	St. Paul des Metis	Innisfail (2 years)
Rocky Mountain House	Fort Saskatchewan	Vulcan
Raymond	Ponoka	Wheatsheaf (2 years)
Berry Creek	Alix	Grassy Lake
Mid-Pembina (2 years)	Youngstown	Onoway
Langdon	Legal	Lacombe
Stettler	Castor	Didsbury
Granum	Tofield	Camrose
Oyen		Ponoka

Besides the above a number of Societies have paid their fees since the close of the fiscal years, and these will be included in the next balance sheet.

Fees have been paid by the following:—

Stony Plain	Viking	Highland
Daysland	Consort	Gleichen
Nakanum	Vulcan	Kitscoty
Bowden	Nanton	Medicine Hat
Calgary	Strome-Killam	Chauvin
High River	Lloydminster	Alix
Rocky Mountain House	Ponoka	Swalwell
Fort Saskatchewan	Lethbridge	Colinton
Irma	Trochu	Wainwright
Innisfree	Provost	Leduc
Chinook	Cardston	Berry Creek

Moved by Captain Evans, and seconded by Mr. Day: That the Annual Financial Report, as submitted, be adopted.

On the question being put it was declared unanimously adopted.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Richardson:

I will now ask the Secretary to read the Report of the Executive Committee.

The Secretary:

Gentlemen: Your Executive Committee beg to report that in accordance with the instructions issued at the last annual convention the resolutions which were passed at that time were submitted to the proper authorities, as follows:—

The resolution requesting that a bounty be placed upon coyotes was submitted to the Honorable Minister of Agriculture, with a request that it be given favorable consideration.

The resolution requesting the Government to assist the farmers in securing a better strain of dairy stock was also submitted to the Minister of Agriculture, and no doubt he will comment on this resolution when addressing you at this convention.

The resolution requesting the Government to put the names of the members of Agricultural Societies on their mailing lists to receive copies of the publications issued by the Department of Agriculture, was submitted to the Minister of Agriculture, with a request that same be given favorable consideration.

The resolution asking that power be given to Local Improvement Districts to grant financial aid to agricultural societies was submitted to the Minister of Municipalities, with an explanation of the requirements needed.

The resolution expressing thanks and appreciation of the work done by the Minister of Agriculture, and by the members of his staff, was submitted to the Minister.

The resolution of thanks for the entertainment extended to the delegates by the staff and students of the Olds School of Agriculture was submitted to the Principal of that school.

The resolution requesting that steps be taken to secure the registration by the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association of the Olds Country Dairy Shorthorns was submitted to that Association, and the answer received will be submitted to you during the course of the convention. The information furnished by the Secretary of that Association was such that your Executive deemed it inadvisable to take any further steps to put the recommendation into effect, believing that the wishes of the members had been met to a very large extent, by the action of the Shorthorn Breeders' Association.

In arranging for this Convention, your Executive have departed from the usual procedure by completing arrangements for an open meeting which will be held this evening, at which the chair will be taken by His Honor, Dr. R. G. Brett, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, and besides this we shall have the pleasure of meeting one of the most distinguished agricultural educationalists in Western Canada, in the person of Dr. Reynolds, President of the Manitoba Agricultural College, who has kindly consented to attend the convention.

In conjunction with the open meeting it is expected that the members of the Alberta Women's Institutes, who are in session at this time, will be present and take part in the programme.

Your Executive have also arranged for a representative from the Saskatchewan Agricultural College to be present at the Convention, and it is hoped that Professor Bracken will address you on a subject of importance.

Since the last annual convention considerable progress in agricultural education has been made in this Province, and the Agricultural College has been organized with a competent staff in charge. Your Executive have arranged for Professor Howes, Dean of the College to address the convention, and thereby give you an opportunity to become acquainted with him.

An effort was also made to secure a representative from British Columbia, so that the problems which are confronting the British Columbia agriculturists could be presented to you at first hand, but unfortunately it was impossible for the Live Stock Commissioner of that Province, Mr. W. T. MacDonald to arrange to come to Alberta at the present time.

The date for the Convention is a little later than usual, but the winter months seem to be completely filled with conventions that it was hard to arrange an earlier date which would not clash with other conventions, so this year advantage was taken of the fact that the convention would be held in Edmonton, to arrange the meeting when the Legislative Assembly was in session, so that the delegates would, if they so desired, visit the Legislature and take up with their members matters of importance.

During the past year a few matters of importance have come before your Executive, and on some of these it is advisable to give you a report thereon.

One of the most important deals with the fixing of the fair dates. These dates are arranged as far as possible in circuits so that the expense to the Department of Agriculture in supplying judges will be reduced to a minimum, as it is recognized that this is at the best a most expensive undertaking, and it is hardly fair to the Department, after dates have been asked for and these dates allotted for a Society to report that it is inconvenient to hold the fair on the date mentioned and that other dates later in the year should be allotted. If this is done it means that the whole circuit is upset, or else that a considerable gap is made in the circuit during which it is not possible for the judges to occupy their time.

Another point in this connection is that in answer to numerous requests which come to hand every year, a large number of cards giving the fair dates are sent to all parts of the country and when sudden changes in the circuit are decided upon it is not possible to notify the various correspondents of such changes.

Another matter of interest which arose this year was with a society which arranged for its members to donate back to the Society a portion of the prize money earned to finish paying for a grand stand, and complications ensued through the Government paying a grant on only the net amount paid out, deducting from the prize money earned that portion which had been withheld from the members. Of course in a matter of this kind it is not possible to know just what action should be decided upon, as technically it cannot be said that the Society paid out the full amount of prize money, and no doubt the Provincial Auditor decided in that manner, but in any event a subject of this kind is of importance, and it is possible that some action may be suggested by debating this matter during the course of the Convention. Your Executive is given to understand that in the case referred to it was necessary for the Society to cancel all arrangements for a 1915 fair.

Another matter was that of a society which was, in accordance with the Agricultural Societies Act, fined for a very considerable delay in sending in their returns; the cause for the delay being primarily the fact that the society was situated in the dried-out part of the province and it was not possible to create an interest in the work on that account. In this instance, your Executive recommended that if there was any method whereby it could be done it would be advisable to deal leniently with the society, as otherwise there was a chance that it might have to disband.

Your Committee have this year secured the assistance of Mr. Galbraith, the Superintendent of Fairs and Institutes, in arranging the schedule of dates for 1916, and trust that when submitted to you it will be satisfactory.

Your Committee regret to have to report that during the past year agriculture in Alberta, and Agricultural Societies in particular, have lost a very staunch friend by the death of our late Superintendent of Fairs and Institutes, Mr. C. E. Lewis, who was recognized as one of the hardest workers that has ever undertaken agricultural work in this Province. Mr. Lewis' loss is all the more heavy as when this convention met one year ago we were in hopes that he had almost recovered his health and would soon return to this Province, and assume his duties. Further heavy losses to agriculture in Alberta were sustained by the deaths of Mr. James Speakman, President of the United Farmers of Alberta, Professor A. E. Shuttleworth, of Blackie, a member of the Board of Agriculture for the Province, and a prominent Shorthorn breeder and exhibitor, and Mr. Drewry, of Cowley, another member of the Board of Agriculture, and in the front rank of the Percheron breeders and exhibitors.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Moved by Mr. Bjorkeland, and seconded by Mr. Jack: That the Report of the Executive Committee be adopted as report. Carried unanimously.

LETTER FROM SHORTHORN BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION

Mr. Richardson:

The next order of business is the consideration of a letter from the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association relative to the registration of Dual Purpose Shorthorns. I will ask the Secretary to read this letter.

The Secretary:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: This letter was referred to in the report of the Executive Committee, and is considered of such importance that it was deemed advisable to present same to you for discussion. The letter reads as follows:—

E. J. Fream, Esq.—

"Your letter of April 14th, addressed to Ottawa has been forwarded to me. I have carefully noted the contents and have given this matter considerable thought. I did not reply as soon as I might have done for the reason that I was trying to secure some further information on one or two points.

"Your resolution introduces a very large question, a question which as an Association we can only deal with at an annual meeting as it involves a change in our Constitution. However I feel that I should explain the position of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association in this matter, taking conditions as they are now and as they would be if we provide a separate record for the English Dairy Shorthorn.

"I might first say, that as an Association, we fully recognize the value of the English Dairy Shorthorn and expect that they will be a strong factor in the future development and advancement of the interests of the breed in this country. During the past two years several importations of these cattle have been brought to Canada but as our standard of registration did not permit the registration of a great many of the best dairy cattle in England these importers had to be very careful in making their selections and even then we had some cattle brought in which unfortunately we could not record. It was such cases as these that demonstrated to those representatives who attend to the affairs of the Association throughout the year, that if we wished to encourage the importation of Dairy Shorthorns, we must relax our rules governing their registration. Consequently at our last Annual Meeting a Notice of Motion which had previously been given, brought up the question of changing our standard of registration, and it was decided to accept 'the descendants of all females recorded, or eligible for record in the 50th or preceding volumes of Coates' English Shorthorn Herd Book "eligible" to be held to mean that animals were born prior to January 1st. 1904.' By this change we believe that probably 80 per cent., possibly more, of the English Shorthorns will be eligible for record in this country. We consider it advisable to remain about ten years behind the English Herd Books with our registrations. If we were to throw our books open and to accept anything that will record in England we would lose control of our registering as any change in their requirements would similarly affect our books. I might say that the American Shorthorn Breeders' Association entertain these same views and they have also changed their standard so that they accept the same cattle that we do. It should be very gratifying to the breeders of Canada to know that anything which we record in our books is eligible to record in the United States. I presume that it is quite possible that your meeting would not have passed the resolution which you enclosed if they had known that we were making this change in our standard.

"It would appear to me, from a registration point of view, that it would be entirely impracticable to maintain a separate register for English Dairy Shorthorns. One thing is certain and that is that we could only admit the same cattle which would be admitted under the rules governing our present records. You can understand that with the great number of

Shorthorns now in Canada, there would be sure to be a great amount of crossbreeding with the Dairy Shorthorns. This in the course of time would necessitate the registration in the beef records of all these dairy cattle in order to permit the registration of this crossbreeding. If we were to admit Dairy Shorthorns which would not record in the beef records (as you term them), and this crossbreeding took place to any great extent it would spell 'disaster' to the Shorthorn breeding interests in Canada.

"Another point, a very important point, which we must consider, is the effect which such a change would have on the dairy Shorthorns which we have in Canada. To me it is a great surprise to find that we have so many heavy milking cows in Canada. Two years ago we began with the Record of Performance Test and already 48 cows have qualified, some making exceptionally good records, and the number of cows on test is increasing all the time. The results are certainly very creditable to the breed. If we were to start a new Record it would be quite reasonable to expect that these cattle would not receive the recognition they deserve. They would not have the prestige which would go with the name of the English Dairy Shorthorn but they might be fully their equals as producers. Our last statistics show that we have 56,607 Shorthorns in Canada and we should deliberate long and carefully before we make any radical change which might prejudice the interests or value of this vast number of pure-bred cattle.

"Do you not think it would be better to let the Records of Performance be our register for all our good dairy cattle, English and Canadian, there is really only one breed, and for us to make every effort to combine, as far as practicable, the two great qualities, beef and milk, so that here in Canada we may have a great dual-purpose breed which would be the equal of any in the world.

"I would like very much to have your personal views on this question and to know whether you consider the change in our standard sufficient to meet the wishes of your members.

"Yours very truly,

"H. M. PETTIT,

"Secretary."

Mr. Richardson:

Now, gentlemen, that is a long but a very important letter and is now open for your discussion. If Mr. Craig is here it is possible that he could give us further information on the subject, as he was present at the annual meeting of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association held at Toronto a short time ago, and he has also been giving considerable thought to the question of dairy Shorthorns. Possibly he might explain whether anything was done at that meeting in Toronto.

Mr. H. A. Craig, Deputy Minister of Agriculture:

Mr. President and Gentlemen: I would very much have preferred to have heard some discussion on this subject first. As most of you are aware we, as a department, are interested in dairy Shorthorns and with a view to encouraging the business we established a herd at the Sedgewick Administration Farm some four years ago.

ADDRESS BY PREMIER SIFTON

Mr. Richardson:

The Premier of the Province, the Honorable A. L. Sifton, is here and is anxious to get away so I am going to call upon him now to address you. Perhaps we can have the discussion on this letter from the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association later on.

Premier Sifton:

Gentlemen: It seems a pity to interrupt something that was some good to you but as I was in the building attending a meeting of the Women's Institute, Mr. Marshall informed me you were in session here and I said I would be very pleased for a minute or two to come in and bid you welcome on behalf of the Province. You are engaged in a great work in connection

with these agricultural associations and it is a pity you should be kept from that work by people like myself talking to you. I did belong to one once when I was very young. They were short of farmers to look after them and I was secretary of an agricultural association and it was in a country where they were very proud of their wheat and everybody was so proud of the wheat and of the fact that there was going to be a tremendous supply of wheat at this agricultural exhibition so that it happened that nobody sent in any because they thought everybody else would be crowding them with their wheat and when the day of opening came there wasn't one single bushel of wheat at the agricultural association fair and in order to enthruse the visitors from outside they sent down to the mill and got a large dray-load of wheat and divided it into different lots and put —1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes and Honorable Mention on them. There were representatives from all the agricultural papers present, there was the Governor of the Province of Manitoba, there were the highest officials of the Hudson's Bay Company and there were various representatives from various other institutions and they examined that wheat very carefully during the whole of that day, but there was considerable argument on only one point, they all agreed that the first prize wheat was away ahead of the others but there was a difference of opinion as to whether the second or third should have got the prizes but the Ex-Governor, who is now dead, said he had been forty years farming and that when the judges gave the second prize they knew what they were about and that it was infinitely a better sample than the third. I hope nothing of this kind will be necessary in connection with your work in the Agricultural Society because in this country I say and believe that there is no difference in the wheat and that it is all first prize wheat and the fact of giving second and third prizes and Honorable Mention is only for the sake of keeping up the competition which is all a very good thing. Thanking you, gentlemen.

ADDRESS BY HON. DUNCAN MARSHALL

Mr. Richardson:

I am sure that we are more indebted than one knows to the fact that we are holding our convention at the same time as the Women's Institute so that you will have speakers address you such as the Premier and Minister of Agriculture among others. You will remember last year that several times during our convention the Minister of Agriculture, who was present at the Women's Convention left them at intervals and came down to our convention and we hope he will do the same this year. We would like now to hear a few words from the Honorable Duncan Marshall, and I might add that we shall again have an opportunity of hearing him to-night at the open convention.

The Honorable Duncan Marshall:

Mr. President and Gentlemen: I will not take up the time of your regular programme by speaking at any length, because as your President has said, I am on the programme to-night for a few remarks. Just one thing I want to say to the delegates at the Fairs Convention, and it is this, that through this province at different places we have a good many agricultural societies and that if you went to their fair last year and you went this year and go next year you are always sure to find a little better exhibition this year than last year, and you will see the kind of effort and enthusiasm that makes a good show. Then there are other exhibitions if you go to them this year you don't need to go to them next year because the same stuff will be there this year as was there last year and will come again next year, and if they live long enough you will find it there the following year. It is unnecessary for me to specify any societies. You know whether I mean yours or not. But there are some exhibitions run in this province like that and I am up against this proposition now, that our vote to agricultural societies in this province is very large, it is past the \$100,000 mark and for a province like ours with our amount of revenue that is a large grant. We are paying more to agricultural societies than any other province in Canada according to population, and I am not sure that something will not

have to be done about this before many years go by. The grants will be voted the same this year because it will be necessary if any other course should be pursued, to notify the exhibitions one year ahead before any change is made in the grants. That would only be fair, because they go ahead and hold their exhibitions depending on that grant. I don't know how the weeding out is to take place, but we have too many agricultural societies in the Province of Alberta for them all to hold good exhibitions, and I would be glad to have some suggestions or some advice on this matter from this convention or from the Executive of this Association. I do not think it is any good in a neighborhood where there does not seem to be any interest or enthusiasm for an exhibition, to be year after year paying grants to a show that is not really of any educational value whatever. I am talking to you perfectly frankly and you know whether I mean you or not. We can't weed out these exhibitions by the population of the towns. One of the best exhibitions in this province is held—it is held between the two best constituencies in the province—I see Mr. Archer back there—it is on the boundary line between his constituency and mine, but I think it is in his constituency, it is at Milnerton. It is held in a man's field and you only have to go there to see one of the best local exhibitions held in the Province of Alberta. We have now to supply them with two judges, one for light horses and one for heavy horses, and with an extra judge for cattle as well, besides a man judging the cattle cannot go over them in a day. This is largely due to the fact that the farmers out in that country have been induced by competition to bring out their best stuff and I attended this exhibition seven years ago and I can tell you that it has steadily improved from year to year, the quality of the exhibits last year being excellent. These farmers have been stimulated by competition with their neighbors to bring things up to this pitch, and it is not anything strange to see fifteen animals in a class at this show, and I might say that there is some of the best class of stuff in the province around there, and the energy put into that exhibition has largely brought this about. There are shows held in some towns that are good exhibitions, but I am singling this one out to show what can be done out in the country without the assistance that men in towns give to keep the agricultural society alive in their town. Mr. Galbraith, Superintendent of Fairs and Institutes and I have considered this matter very carefully and we are not clear how the weeding out process should be done, but I think it is in the interests of the agricultural societies in the province that something should be done about this matter instead of having the same kind of fair every year as some of them do, when that fair is of little or no value, but those fairs which show a marked improvement in the class of stock from time to time in their neighborhood, should be encouraged. We have been generous in our assistance to the large fairs, and I believe that exhibitions like those of Calgary and Edmonton are of material service. They are also of educational value. You all come to Calgary or Edmonton and you see a better class of stock. The Dominion Government is now giving grants on condition that the competitions are open to the whole of Canada and that is all right, but it is with the result that some of the best outside stock breeders ship their stock to these exhibitions with the result that you see a higher class of animals than you would see at smaller shows. But let me say this, I believe the local fair can be made a better institution for the increase of good live stock among the ordinary farmers of the province than the big show, because you can get that good healthy rivalry in a neighborhood where a bunch of men can breed their stock in competition. You take a trip to Okotoks and you will see a bunch of splendid horses there. There has been rivalry there so that they have been breeding good horses in that neighborhood. At Lacombe you also see a splendid exhibition of Shorthorn cattle and they come in there and compete with each other and it stimulates good breeding. At the Red Deer fair you see splendid dairy cattle because there has been competition around there. I am not arguing as to the relative merits of the large and small fairs. The large fairs are valuable from an educational standpoint because a man can see good animals there. I am always glad to see some of this good stuff when shipped in here stay here in order to improve our stocks and herds, but I think the best thing in this province for the encouragement and stimulation for raising good stock in the neighborhood is the local fair.

Farmers take out this moderately good stock and they get a better idea by comparing with their neighbors, and you will improve your stock much by making your local fair a good live organization. This summer I tried to visit all the fairs I could, I cannot visit them all, but Mr. Galbraith and Mr. Clements, who are in charge of the fairs work in the department, are endeavoring to visit as many as they possibly can and we want to see a greater effort put forth on behalf of the local fair because the local fair has to justify itself as an institution and be a good investment for the people of this province to vote their money to. It must not be held for the purpose of dividing prize money among a few people and for simply drawing grants. That is not its purpose. Its purpose is for the improvement of live stock and I want to see new and greater efforts put forward for the purpose of encouraging live stock along these lines. I am not prepared to say how those fairs that do not make a success are to be disorganized but unless some of them are made better institutions than they are now, we will be compelled to arrange a plan to cut them off, because a fair that does not come up to a certain standard should not get a grant. We want to carry this work along so that the money paid out by the Government will be a good investment, and that is all I have to say to you just now.

DISCUSSION ON DAIRY SHORTHORNS

Mr. Richardson:

I think the remarks we have just heard from Mr. Marshall as to it being necessary to curtail the societies if they are not doing good work, will help to make the societies use more energy and make themselves more useful. I am sorry to have had to interrupt Mr. Craig in his address, but we will now continue with our discussion of the Dairy Shorthorn problem, and will ask him to continue the discussion.

Mr. Craig:

After listening to two addresses, one from the Premier and the other from the Minister of Agriculture, I am not sure that I can bring you back to think of Dairy Shorthorns. However, it is a subject in which we are very much interested as a department, and I am particularly pleased that the Agricultural Societies' Convention is taking this matter up. I think I was about to say when the Premier came in, that we have a herd of Shorthorns at the Sedgewick farm and most of you are perhaps aware that this herd was established about four years ago. We have now, about seventy-five females on that farm, most of them breeding, and some of them just coming into breeding condition. We also have a small herd at Athabasca. We are establishing these herds realizing that the Dairy Shorthorn is an animal particularly suited to the needs of Alberta, and I feel that you men in discussing the subject are discussing something that will be of the greatest benefit in the future to the farmers of this Province. The Minister of Agriculture and Mr. Carlisle and myself went to Eastern Canada to attend a meeting of the Shorthorn Breeders' Association to find out what they particularly intended to do with respect to the Dairy Shorthorn. Mr. Marshall addressed that meeting and while there was a great deal of interest displayed in the matter, there was nothing done, and we came to the conclusion that if there was going to be any real headway made with respect to the Dairy Shorthorn, that we had to look to some other source than to the beef Shorthorn men. In talking to some of the dairy Shorthorn men, they are all of the same opinion that if the dairy Shorthorn is to progress, the matter must be thoroughly looked after by the men who are interested in dairy Shorthorn cattle. Most of you are aware that it is only within the last three or four months that a dairy Shorthorn record has been established in the United States, Mr. J. J. Hill and Mr. Shaw being particularly interested in this record. It is a separate record established there and I would like if this Association would take the time to discuss the advisability of establishing a separate record in Canada. We took this matter up with Mr. Brant the Registrar of the Live Stock Breeders' Association in Ottawa and he gave us a good deal of interesting information, information that is not general. Mr. Pettit in writing to Mr. Fream, the Secretary, said all cattle registered

in Canada would register in the United States. That is perfectly right, but that is not what we are interested in. We are not going to raise good Shorthorn cattle and ship them to the United States; we want some of the good cattle they have there in order to build up our stock. He also says that eighty per cent. of the cattle in England will register. I do not know that, but I will say this, that cattle good enough to register in England should be good enough to register in Canada. Furthermore, you can bring from England a four-cross cow and she will register in Canada. Bring a five-cross bull from England and he will register here. Those of you that go through the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec know you can pick out half a dozen cows that would make a splendid foundation stock from any farmer there to commence with and by using a good dairy Shorthorn bull we would get somewhere in ten years' time. We have scores of letters in our department asking for pure-bred dairy Shorthorn cows and we cannot deliver them. Where are we to go to buy them? I believe if it were possible to breed up dairy Shorthorns in Canada there would be a good many men undertake the business, and I think it would also be a particular good thing for Western Canada. Now Gentlemen, I would be glad if you would discuss this matter and if there are any questions I can answer, I will be very glad to do so. Mr. Fream, I believe, read from that communication that the Shorthorn men of Canada, at least the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders, decided last year to change their rules so that animals registered in the fiftieth or preceding volumes might be included. That is worth something, but at the same time the fundamental fact remains that if the dairy Shorthorn is going to get any place, we need not look to the beef Shorthorn men for much assistance.

Mr. Richardson:

I am sure we are glad to have the information Mr. Craig has given us in connection with dairy Shorthorns. It has just occurred to me that the best way for the Convention to get on with this important subject—if Mr. Craig is agreeable—is to ask him to draft a resolution that would best help the objects of the Department or those interested in dairy Shorthorns, and when the resolution is prepared, we can discuss it further. Is that agreeable to the Convention?

The delegates by show of hands agreed to this proposal.

Mr. Richardson:

Mr. Craig would like a committee of two to act with him and perhaps it would be better to ask Mr. Craig to name two, because he will probably know those interested in dairy Shorthorns, and I will ask him to appoint his own committee, and report to the Convention at a later meeting.

Delegate:

What type of animal do you want to start up from, any particular breed?

Mr. Craig:

I think that is a very good question. Just to make the matter of our idea of Shorthorns a little clearer, I might say we purchased a dairy Shorthorn bull in Ontario two or three weeks ago and this bull is known by the name of "Director." His grand dam is a cow called "Dorothy." She was bred and owned by Lord Rothchild. She averaged over 9,000 lbs. for nine years and dropped nine calves. His great grand dam averaged 10,000 lbs. for ten years and dropped ten calves. His dam "Doralice" made about 5600 in nine months and this does not give her record for the full year. Our idea is to get as much milk as it is possible and at the same time get as much beef as is possible. The point I wish to make is this: the bull "Director" has a record of milk production behind him and at the same time he is an animal that could go into a good beef show ring and stand a chance of winning some money. He is low set, full of character and substance. The animal we do not want is the poorly fleshed, narrow kind, too often sold to an unsuspecting public as a dairy Shorthorn.

Mr. Hoadley:

Mr. Craig has mentioned the matter of raising and grading up our dairy stock in this Province. In regard to the matter of grading stock of

any kind in the Dominion of Canada or in any colony it is impossible to take as a precedent what has been done in the British Isles. The great point to bear in mind in that connection is this: that the cattle of different breeds have not been bred in the different districts, and that of course would lead up to a subject for much discussion here. They have been grading cattle and raising these cattle for generations and they have graded on crosses there. It is an absolute certainty there is no outside common blood such as Texas blood, but we might have that interjected into our pure-bred bulls here. It might be advisable if you could limit the right to register under these conditions, but can you come to me and say you commenced with this breed of a cow and you have crossed until the semblance of the breed you commenced with has disappeared and apparently you have a pure-bred animal but nevertheless contained in the strains of that animal will be some of the great characteristics of the breed from which you commenced. The great recommendation and the great possibility that is contained in the matter of a certain amount of crosses being accepted as a risk for registration in the Old Country is that practically you have no impurity of blood. I might say while I am speaking as an instance, if you will allow me, take the case of the Clydesdale horse. In Canada we have adopted a principle of a certain number of crosses making an animal good for registration. I have known instances myself and I have not the slightest doubt that any breeder of horses who has had an experience of horses in this country of any duration, knows of cases where a cayuse five generations ago was the origin of an animal that has a pedigree to-day. That is an unfortunate state of affairs undoubtedly and I do not think it would eventually result in a benefit to the undoubtedly desirable encouragement of a breed of Shorthorn milking cattle, should things be carried on in this way. I do not think there is any dispute about that. I come from a district in the Old Country where we have a great many of them. That is on the borders of England and Scotland and the milking Shorthorn was a great cow. Just imagine anyone saying that the milking Shorthorn, and I am not saying this to be critical—it is just to interject these thoughts into the meeting, or you can reject them if you think they are not worth while—just think of this, we are talking of the Province of Alberta and talking of a certain breed of cattle as being the right breed for this Province, that is it the proper breed taking into consideration our changes of climate when it has taken them generations in the Old Country to get them to the standard they have. Different cattle are better raised in different localities there. Can we apply those ideas here. Of course I know we are in our infancy. I never say this anywhere else but I say it here that wonderful things have been done by Mr. Marshall and his Department and I am perfectly frank in regard to that, but Mr. Marshall and every man in his Department are like the rest of human beings, they have their limitations, and it is not a criticism of them I wish to make, but I wish to point out simply that things must come in order, but I would like to direct their attention to the fact that success in its largest form, particularly in stock, must come under the conditions under which you are going to raise your stock. Adopt the breed which is most suitable for conditions and then you can hope for a large measure of success.

In regard to the matter Mr. Marshall had mentioned, the matter of fairs, I do not think sufficient has been done along the line of specializing for your neighbor. They undertake to carry out a programme of great length and they have not got the stock that will make a success of that whole programme, but they are ambitious, we are all ambitious, and it is a grand thing. If you are not ambitious you are liable to die of stagnation, and that is the case with our fairs as well. It is a burden and I have no doubt that no department can carry this on for ever but how can you get success? It is by centering your exhibits along the lines you can produce on. You can possibly make success through that system. Have you for instance in a district, and you see it every day, a quantity of prizes offered for all breeds of horses at a local fair in a district where they have perhaps made a specialty of raising Percherons, and you see nothing but Percherons exhibited in that district and if you follow through our programmes in the different fairs you will see absurdities along that same line. It is like offering a big

bill of fare, the same as when we go to eat, and we are supposed to take one meat only, but you see half a dozen meats on the programme just the same.

My point is this, you must encourage all breeds but especially encourage the one that will do you the most good and are the most successful in the district under which the conditions exist.

Mr. Marshall:

I am exceedingly glad that the discussion of dairy Shorthorns has come up at this meeting because I think this Association was the first organization in Alberta that passed a resolution asking the Government to put a herd of this kind of cattle on one of our demonstration farms. We will be prepared this fall I might say, to hold our first auction sale. This we believe to be the best way to dispose of the cattle from the different demonstration farms. We have not as yet offered any of our young females for sale because we are anxious to get quite a number of them together, and this fall we will hold an auction sale of cattle and also pure-bred sheep and hogs. The sale will be held at some central point in the province, and we will continue every year after this to dispose of our live stock off the demonstration farms in that manner and let the farmers make the prices they think the stock is worth.

The question of dairy Shorthorn breeding was discussed pretty frankly by me at the Shorthorn Meeting in the Province of Ontario, and I could not find anybody brave enough to get up and say anything in favor of it, but after the meeting fifty men told me I said the right thing, but none of them went so far as to publicly endorse it. What Mr. Hoadley has just said about crossing, is quite true. Different breeds of cattle are raised in different localities and you can be pretty sure that a cow raised in a certain locality has been bred up in that particular line. I told those present at the Shorthorn Breeders' Meeting very frankly that I could go into the grade herds in Ontario and buy fifty cows far superior to many of the ordinary pure-bred herds in the Province of Ontario. Men are breeding any number of Shorthorns there that are nothing but scrubs; they have pedigrees but that's all they have got, and they don't begin to be as good as many of the grade Shorthorn cows. Why is it? It is because a man when raising registered stock hates to do away with anything that has a pedigree. But with his grades, if they are not good cows and do not milk well then he puts them out in the pasture and sells them to the butcher and as a result by the process of elimination in Ontario to-day there are herd after herd of first-class grade Shorthorn cows that are first-class milkers. I was speaking in Iowa the other day with President Curtis and he told me in that great state he had taken a census of the breeds and that ninety per cent. of the dairy products of Iowa were produced from Shorthorn cows and there were any number of dairy Shorthorns around that part of the country and they were being bred successfully. It may be true in England that certain breeds do better in certain localities than others, but on this continent what do we find? The Champion Ayrshire cow of the world is near Philadelphia and the next best one is near Seattle and the third is down somewhere about the middle of the State of New York and you will find conditions of that kind prevailing all over, and in this province you have to endeavour to discover what is best for the ordinary man, because the ordinary farmer, farming under ordinary conditions, is the most important man in this province to-day. There are a few men living near the towns or cities who go into special dairy farming and they make a specialty of selling milk to people in the city. Everyone knows here that if you do not give Holstein and Jersey cows special attention they do not get along so well, but the Shorthorn will do a great deal of rustling and she will not get that hump on her back to the same extent as the others. We know this that in a province like Alberta the first settlers in this country may have to milk cows when they first settle. You take in the Northern part of Alberta from Didsbury north, a man who went into a homestead there and took a quarter-section of land and only just had enough to make a payment down and pay for some stock and implements, he had to milk cows and if he has no money coming in every month to pay his running expenses he will find himself in a bad fix at the end of a year. Men settling like that under ordinary conditions in our province on a small piece of land, have got to milk, but the best cow for a man in that position is a cow that will drop

him a calf which he can sell for fifty dollars odd. That is our conclusion after a cursory survey that we have been able to make up to date.

As to breeding up I quite agree that breeding up should be carefully done but I am not absolutely convinced myself that very much breeding up should be done, but I do believe that our books should be open to both England and the United States for two reasons. One is they are the only two countries I know of who have kept records for any time, and you can go to Lord Rothchild's place and find that they have the record of every cow on the farm for eighteen years back and they have certificates from the wholesale dealers to whom they sold their milk showing they sold that much milk from so many cows, showing that their own records are correct. Then when you buy a bull out of a herd like that you are not doing any guess-work, you know what you are getting. There are only two places you can get them, one is England and the other country is the United States, and from what I have seen of both herds I would prefer English Shorthorns, but sometimes it might be advisable to buy some American's, because they have a splendid show of them in Chicago, and another point is that all the American ones trace back to an importation made over a hundred years ago, when they were imported from England at that time and they have been pure-bred from that time, but the Canadian book refuses to accept them. The American Shorthorn Breeders' Association very foolishly put on a special fee of One Hundred Dollars against imported stuff from Canada to the United States but they have now wiped that out, and my friends always used to tell me just as soon as the Americans will take off that \$100 fee we will accept their book, and I might say they have now dropped charging such a fee. I would like to see the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association accept the American book and then the English book and we would then be in a better position to accept it, and then I believe that the breeding up if it can possibly be done will be a great stimulation for breeding up this stock amongst the farmers.

ADDRESS BY PROFESSOR REYNOLDS

The Chairman:

If there is no further discussion on this matter, we will now drop the subject until the Committee is prepared to present the resolution for consideration, I am very pleased indeed that we have with us this morning, President Reynolds of the Manitoba Agricultural College. He has very kindly come up to address the joint meeting of the Women's Institutes and our Convention this evening, and I think it would be very nice at this stage to have a word or two from President Reynolds. Those of us who have had the benefit of going to the college where President Reynolds was, as I have, know the high esteem in which he is held and it is certainly a pleasure for those who know him best to meet him here.

President Reynolds:

Mr. President and Gentlemen: I do not mean to interrupt your discussion for any length of time. I shall have the pleasure of speaking to you to-night at greater length and moreover I feel so new to the conditions here in the West that my rightful place is in my seat listening to those of you who have been in the West for some time and who know the conditions here. I am sorry for you just now that you are up against that Shorthorn problem. We have had it in Ontario and the way it has been threshed out in Ontario seems to me to be this, that the beef men and the dairy men will never agree on the compromise, and the dairy Shorthorn seems to be a compromise. The men who are breeding and milking the pure-bred dairy cow will never be convinced that there is such a thing as a dual purpose cow and in my judgment it is practically useless to attempt to convince them; but on the other hand, in practice, for a man whose situation does not give him the market for high-priced dairy products, either milk or butter, a man in that situation, some distance from the market, seems in practice to have his needs best served by the dual-purpose. That is as a matter of fact the way it has worked out in Ontario. Then the question of a delegate here as to what type you should breed to is of course again unanswerable, at least that is what we have concluded in Ontario. My experience—though I have been

a college man for twenty years, I have had a little experience on a farm of my own, not in pure-bred stock either, but just an experience like most of you have had and like farmers in this country must have, namely, the making of profits from grade cows; that is what I undertook to do. I will not say I was not ambitious enough, but I hadn't money enough when I started and hadn't money enough when I quit to go into pure-bred stock, but this is my experience. As Mr. Marshall has said with careful selection, with careful attention, and with good feeding, you can get good profits from what looks to be a very ordinary cow. In the course of two years by selection from auction sales I managed to get a herd of ten cows that averaged me 9400 lbs. of milk, and that is within the capacity and opportunity and within the means of any farmer in this Province and if you can manage to do that with grade Shorthorns or Holsteins or any other grade, you are in the right direction for making money on the farm. Whether this is an accident or whether it would be an uncommon experience I don't know, but I am giving it you for what it is worth; out of eight cows whose production I recorded particularly, three were red and roan, that is to say grade Shorthorns, and five were black and white, that is to say grade Holsteins, the average of the three Shorthorns was exactly the same in amount of milk as the five Holsteins, 9400 lbs. But the three Shorthorns gave me 410 pounds butter fat each in the year, and the Holsteins, 338 lbs. butter fat. I don't say that that is a rule and I don't say it proves anything; that was my experience. I got those cows, everyone of them, right out of the auction sale and weeded them out. They were the best I could get out of some twenty-five cows I bought in the course of the two years. This question will work itself out for the practical average man and as Mr. Marshall says that is a thing we have to consider. In my judgment it is in the interest of the breeder of pure-bred stock, most particularly considering the average man, if you can only induce him to understand the importance of grading up from his common stock and buying from you who are breeding pure-bred stock, the best male stock that can be got. There is your market and there is your advantage in encouraging the grading up of stock for dairy or beef purposes in this country. I wish to convey to this province of Alberta the sister greetings from the Province of Manitoba. I realize and hope that you realize that our interests are largely common and our problems are in part common. We have the same things to do, to build up a great agricultural population throughout this rich and fertile province of the West.

Delegate:

How did the consumption of feed come out in feeding these Shorthorns and Holsteins?

Professor Reynolds:

They all had pretty good stomachs and I didn't find very much difference in that respect. I certainly did not find that the Shorthorns had any more, I think they had about as much. That is to say, they had all my foreman thought it was wise to put before them and keep them in a good state of health. The profits which I considered of course along with the actual production, were about proportionate to the production.

ADJOURNMENT

The President:

It is now lunch time, and we will stand adjourned until two o'clock this afternoon, when the Convention will open with an address by Professor Bracken, of Saskatchewan University.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The Convention was called to order by the President, Mr. Richardson, on Wednesday afternoon, March 1st, 1916, at 2.15 o'clock.

ADDRESS BY PROFESSOR BRACKEN

The Chairman introduced to the Convention, Professor Bracken of Saskatchewan University, Saskatoon, who was to address the convention on "Crop Production in Western Canada"

Professor Bracken:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: It is a very great pleasure to have this privilege of attending an agricultural society's convention in Alberta. When your secretary wrote me and asked me to come up and take part in one of your sessions I accepted the opportunity at once, not because I felt that I had a particular message to the farmers of Alberta, but because I wanted to get in touch with the work you are doing, and get some inspiration and some suggestions to take back home to our people in Saskatchewan.

I have been asked to speak to you on crop production in Western Canada. I enjoyed a portion of your session this morning, and I believe a good part of it was taken up in the discussion of the live stock question. This afternoon it will be an entirely different programme, for we will consider the subject of growing crops.

By way of introducing this subject, let me remind you that it is only about one hundred years since the first settlement was made in what we look upon now as Western Canada. I refer to Selkirk, and the settlers in the Red River Valley, yet up to about sixty years ago all this Western land was practically unsettled by white men. This great inland empire extending from the Great Lakes and the Mississippi to the Rocky Mountains, one thousand miles from east to west, and two thousand miles from north to south, for I refer to the United States as well as Canada, contained practically no farmers. That great area was considered unfit for agriculture, the northern part was thought to be too dry to grow crops, and too cold to live in. The geographers of that day spoke of it as the "Great American Desert."

Within the memory of men in this room, one million, five hundred thousand people have come to Western Canada, to what the earlier people considered a desert, to make their homes on the land. Some of these men have made fortunes, some of them have made a living, but some have not made either. They met many difficulties, they failed because of one or two reasons,—they were unable to get crops or they were unable to get crops profitably.

As I proceed in this discussion I shall deal with the principles underlying the practice of agriculture because I quite realize that the practices that we follow in one place and that we find to be good there, may not apply to the different climatic and soil conditions that exist in another place.

In order to control the yield of crops it is necessary to know and to control the causes of low yield; and in order to know the causes of low yield it is necessary to know and to control the conditions that are necessary before a crop can grow. That brings us to the point of my talk to you this afternoon. Harriman, one of the greatest railway magnates of the world was asked by a young man to give him some advice,—he replied, "Get to know the facts of your business, not simply the facts, but the **essential facts.**" We are in the business of agriculture, and we ought to know the essential facts about it. Six things that are absolutely necessary before a crop can grow and that is all. If we knew all about these and could control them we could produce forty bushels every year. They are—the seed, plant food, moisture, heat, light and air.

I want to discuss these in order. The first essential factor in crop production, the first thing that is absolutely necessary is seed. We need not delay long with that. Life does not happen spontaneously, it must come from preceding life, and the seed is the first thing that is necessary. It is our business to see that our seed will grow vigorously, and that it is free from weeds and disease.

Then, plant food; the chemical elements in the soil, the water and air that crops use in growing. Chemists tell us there are over eighty known elements in the soil, the water and the air, they tell us that plants use fifteen of these, and we know that only ten are necessary for growth. Of these ten all are present in the soil in large enough quantities to grow crops indefinitely,

with the exception of three, nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium; that is why men are applying fertilizers that contain these three. Our western lands are rich in plant food because for a million years Nature has been accumulating these elements in our soil, and when we come to them we find them wonderfully fertile.

Moisture is essential to plant growth for two reasons; first, because it is a plant food in itself; 95 per cent. by weight of our crops,—95 per cent. of a bushel of wheat is made up of elements that come from water and air, not from the soil. Moisture is a plant food, but it is more than that. Men eat their food, plants drink theirs; and in order for them to get the elements that are in the soil these elements must first be dissolved in water—just as we dissolve sugar in water—for in that condition only can the plant take up the plant food. The water is then passed off through the leaves.

I would like to point out that, from two hundred and fifty to one thousand pounds of water must enter the roots of the plant and go up through the stems and be transpired from the leaves in order to produce a pound of wheat, that is, from one-eighth of a ton to half a ton of water. That is why water under our condition is important in our agriculture. Plants cannot grow without using up this enormous quantity in the production of the dry matter they produce.

Heat too, is necessary for germination and growth. Seeds will germinate at temperatures varying between thirty-two degrees and a hundred and ten, perhaps best between sixty and ninety, or probably between seventy and ninety. We cannot grow crops without heat; we do not grow them in the winter time, we do not grow them very well in cold years. It is important to us, because we are farming further north than any other country that has an agricultural literature; in Russia and Siberia they are farming further north than we are, but they have not told us how they do it, they have only told us that their average yield is about eight bushels to the acre, so perhaps we have not much to learn from them.

Light is another essential to growing crops, we cannot influence the amount of light that comes to us from the sun, and yet it is important, as you will see a little bit later. One reason we are able to grow crops successfully up here is because of the long hours of sunlight. Light is necessary to take these elements and put them together in such a way as to make the organic matter of the plants. We cannot grow crops in the dark.

Air, too, is essential. It contains oxygen and supplies two elements of growth, carbon and oxygen. The latter is necessary above the land and in the soil as well.

These are all that is necessary for a crop to grow,—nothing else, if we supply each in proper quantity we will get big crops from the soil.

Yet this is not all we need to know. We are not here to grow forty bushel crops necessarily, but we are here to try to make a little profit; we are here to produce crops which are worth more than it costs to grow them. We may produce big crops, but we will fail if we cannot produce these crops at a profit.

We assume in our Province that it costs us about \$25,000,000 a year to grow our weeds. That comes off the profit. Another factor that affects profit is insect and other pests; we must control these if we are going to produce crops profitably. Another is plant diseases, rust and smut; the first one perhaps we cannot control, but the second one,—do you know that ten per cent. of the cars that were inspected at Winnipeg used to be rejected for smut, a disease that is absolutely within our control.

Storms, hail storms, wind storms, rain storms,—we cannot control the weather. Our problem is not a mathematical problem; a man in mathematics adds two and two together and it is four; it will be four this year and four next year and four the year after, but if we do certain things this year and get a certain result we won't necessarily get the same result by doing the same thing next year because the conditions of the weather may change. If we could control all these factors we could control the yield. All we can do is to try to get to know our climate and to meet the climatic conditions that exist. All that we know to offset hail is to insure against

it or to try to grow crops that won't be destroyed altogether if the hail comes. We may lose profit by wind storms, shelling the grain before it is ripe. These are conditions that are largely beyond our control.

The last factor that affects profit is the cost of production or the price.

The farmer is about the only man that buys his goods at retail price and sells his produce at wholesale price. Now, that is a fact and perhaps we can do something to remedy it; it is within our power to control the cost of production. Every dollar that we lower the cost of producing the crops we grow is one dollar added to the profit. It may not be within our power to increase the price we get for our grain although by co-operation or community effort we shall no doubt increase to a small extent the price the farmer receives for his products.

Not all of these things are equally important. Some years the seed is very important. Some years our crops freeze, and the seed is injured. It may grow or it may not, but it is up to us to see that the seed we plant will grow; that is what it is for. Naturally the condition of the plant food is one of the important factors. Within fifteen miles of the capital of the United States you can buy land for \$15 an acre; for two hundred years men have been cropping that land, cropping it all the time, and not putting anything back, and if you were given that land for nothing you could not grow crop enough to make any profit over the cost of production. In the older countries, in England, Flanders, Germany, and Denmark men are applying fertilizers to the land because under these conditions the plant food limits the yield.

Crop growing is like a chain with several links in it. The chain is only as strong as its weakest link. Under these conditions plant food limits the yield and when we supply that need we strengthen the weak link. Under our conditions it may not be plant food, but some of these other things, such as moisture. We get from ten to seventeen inches of moisture from the clouds in an average year; some places get less than two inches, some other countries get fifteen feet of moisture; probably you get ten to eighteen inches, and yet it takes on an average of a quarter of a ton of water to produce a pound of wheat.

Nature has not given us an enormous rain-fall, and yet a lot of water is necessary to grow crops. That is why dry farming in certain parts of Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba, is an important question. Our supply of water is small, and the need is great. It is fortunate for us that the distribution of that moisture is very favorable, for it nearly all comes when the crop is growing; (Referring to diagram). That is the average distribution in Saskatchewan and yours is not different; this shows the relative amount that falls in January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August and September, etc. Our springs are dry and the falls are dry, but the summer in between is wet, and that is very fortunate for us. We have a favorable distribution of moisture. Our total average precipitation is low but if we got that every year we could do pretty well.

While this is the condition that generally obtains yet there are very wide variations from this average; for instance, at once place in the southern part of your Province,—it is not necessary to give the name,—the average precipitation is fifteen and a half inches; yet in one year they got five and a half, in another year twenty-four inches. It is a peculiarity of our climate, that clear from Winnipeg to the Rocky Mountains there are wide variations for precipitation; some years we have a crop failure, and occasionally we get sixty bushels to the acre. It seems to me the biggest problem we are up against is the storage and conservation and efficient use of the moisture that falls on to the land,—that is our first big problem.

The heat question is also important. Take our own city, Saskatoon—in the year 1915 we had a killing frost as late as the 16th of June, and the year before we had a killing frost as early as the 6th of August; that is a pretty short growing season; fortunately, it did not occur in the same year, but it might. This is a condition we cannot control, but it is a condition we ought to appreciate and strive to combat. A school teacher asked one of her class, "What are the advantages of a temperate climate?" A little lad gave the laconic answer, "None." "Why, don't you know you live in a temperate climate?" the teacher asked. The reply was, "Yes, but it

takes my dad all his time to buy ice in summer and coal in winter." That was his opinion of the advantages of a temperate climate. We are in a temperate climate, and as farmers we ought to recognize that; it has some advantages, but it also has some disadvantages.

It is fortunate for us that in the summer time we have longer days than any other place south of here, but of course, in the winter the days are correspondingly shorter. In the month of June the average number of possible hours of sunshine at the following places is, Chicago, fifteen, Minneapolis, fifteen and three-quarters, Regina sixteen and a half, Edmonton seventeen, Dunvegan seventeen and a half, and Dawson City twenty-one. Our long summer days is another reason why it is possible for us to grow crops this far north. Our favorable distribution of moisture and long hours of sunshine are advantages we ought to appreciate.

We have plenty of light and plenty of air, and a man does not need to try to control these conditions except on low-lying soils, or water-logged soils where we may have to drain, or open them up, in order to get more air into them. Generally we get too much air in our soils rather than too little, but it is necessary to have it just right in order to grow big crops.

Among the factors that affect profit weeds are perhaps the most important. Our system of farming lends itself to the spread of annual weeds better than any other system that I know of. Among these are weeds like mustard, stink-weed, wild oats and so on. We know that we can control any weed that grows by tillage, but the thing that we do not know is how to control these weeds at a profit; every man here knows how to control weeds, but he may not know how to control them profitably, and I don't know of any man that does know how to control them and still make money by growing grain. Fortunately we are not very seriously troubled with insect pests, or plant diseases.

Before I leave these factors that are essential to growing crops I want to mention two or three other factors that affect the permanence of our agriculture. You have all heard that our soils are inexhaustible, of the wonderful fertility of our land. It is true the land is fertile, and we will never deplete our soils of their plant food, because we can never get more than one per cent. of certain elements to become available and our soils will be abandoned before they are depleted of their plant food. Those soils at Washington still contain a good deal of plant food but they are not productive; they lack available plant food, and I emphasize the word available. There is plant food in a piece of granite but the plant cannot get it until that granite breaks down and dissolves.

Now, the things that are necessary to permanent agriculture are the maintenance of soil tilth, soil health, soil purity and plant food. We are following some practices that are immediately profitable but that are permanently injuring the land. It is profitable to do certain things from the point of view of the individual, but from the point of view of the state these dissipate the wealth that was given to us. We burn the stubble off the land. That may be and often is an immediately profitable thing to do, but we are wasting the fertility that for a million years has been accumulating in our soil. The most valuable constituent in the land goes off into the air, where it came from, when we burn the stubble and burn the straw; but under certain conditions that may be the best thing for the farmer to do to secure an immediate profit.

We shall maintain soil tilth by keeping up the supply of organic matter, soil health by some form of crop rotation, soil purity by crop rotation and tillage and plant food by crop rotation and the introduction of livestock.

That is one side of the story. What are the means at our disposal for controlling these conditions,—what can we do to fix any condition that is not right? Nature has made nearly all of them right, but some of them she has not. These man must make right if he is going to farm profitably.

We can choose suitable crops, crops that suit our soil, and that suit our climate; we do not grow cotton here, and we do not grow rice. We find what crops are suited to our conditions, and not only the kind of crops, but the varieties that are best suited to our particular conditions. We grew between five hundred and six hundred different kinds of crops at Saskatoon

this year, and I suppose Mr. Hutton grew nearly as many at Lacombe. Information concerning the suitability of our different crops is available to all who ask.

We can improve our crops by selection or by breeding and selection. Marquis wheat was improved by Doctor Saunders, Victory oats were improved in Sweden; North Dakota number 959, Winter rye O.A.C., No. 21 barley and our hardiest alfalfa have been developed by plant breeders, and are still being improved.

We must choose certain crops to suit dry conditions and others for more moist areas, still others for regions of summer frosts. Corn is drought-resistant; cereals are fairly drought-resistant. They withstand spring frosts but not fall frosts. Our root crops won't withstand frost in the spring, but they will in the fall, our hay crops will withstand frost any time, and that is why in the far northern regions livestock farming will be followed more than grain farming.

We may follow suitable crop management practices. By that I mean the cleaning of the seed, the storing of the seed, treating to control disease, sowing at the right time, at the right depth, and at the right rate per acre, and harvesting it at the right time, and curing it in a proper manner, threshing it, and getting rid of it, by practices that make for the highest quality. These are crop management practices. We should get to know the crop management practices that are the best to follow. I won't take time to go into all these to-day, but we are studying them and the different experimental stations are studying them, and every man is making his own observations regarding them. We are quite familiar with the best practices to-day.

I shall refer only to one, that is the rate of seeding. This is a practice we can control, we can use as much or as little as we like. In the wet year of 1911 we planted wheat at the following rates: Half a bushel per acre, a bushel, a bushel and a half, two, and two and a half, and the yields ranged from fifteen bushels on the half bushel plot to thirty bushels on the two and a half bushel plot. That was a wet year, and the frost came early in the fall. The two and a half bushel plot matured eleven days before the half bushel plot, and they were sown at the same time and with the same variety of seed. From that we learn that thick seeding promotes early maturity. It is from such evidence that we recommend our northern farmers, who are afraid of frost to sow thickly.

The next year was a dry year, and we sowed wheat at the same rate, half a bushel, one bushel, one and a half, two, and two and one-half bushels per acre. The half bushel crop yielded the most wheat, and so it would seem that under dry conditions thin seeding is desirable. We have men in Saskatchewan who sow three-quarters of a bushel of wheat on poor land in a dry year per acre, and there are other men with rich soil full of moisture and rich in organic matter that will sow as much as three bushels per acre and both of them may be right. I shall not speak further about rates of sowing, but thick seeding promotes early maturity, and should be used in the northern regions where you are afraid of frost, and thin seeding is conducive to higher yields under dry conditions where you are not afraid of frost in the fall.

We may drain the land or we may irrigate it. Irrigation is practiced in Southern Alberta, because there you are near the Mountains and can get water from the mountain streams and let it filter over the land supplying by artificial means what Nature failed to give. But irrigation is not possible on ninety per cent. of the land in Western Canada where we must make the best use of the moisture that falls from the clouds. There may be too much moisture in the soil, then we may have to drain it, but that also does not affect more than one per cent. of the people in this country.

And now we come to tillage, the thing that costs us more money than any other thing in growing crops. We believe that tillage is the greatest means at our disposal for controlling the causes of low yields under our present soil conditions.

We shall discuss this subject under three heads, the tillage of prairie land, the tillage of stubble and the tillage of the fallow. The time of breaking the prairie is the most important thing in the whole business in regions

where moisture is the limiting factor in crop production. Under certain conditions it pays to plow it twice; where we have creeping rooted grasses in the land in a wet district it pays to plow twice, the second plowing to take place after the rainy season is over. This will put the finishing touches to such native plants as may have persisted after the first plowing.

In Saskatoon our conditions are like the east central portion of your province, not like the conditions here nor in the far south. We broke a strip of land in June, 1911, and back-set it in August after the sod had rotted. We broke another strip in June and surface cultivated it; the yield of flax on each in 1912 was not very different, just about a bushel in favor of the back-set land; but the second crop on the land that was back-set was seventeen bushels, and on the land that was not back-set four and one-half bushels per acre. The creeping rooted grasses in this instance were not killed by one plowing and the cause of the low yield was the native quack in the land. In dry conditions perhaps we can often kill these native grasses with one plowing but under some conditions we can't.

Question: How was the four bushel land cultivated?

Professor Bracken: It was thoroughly disced, the same exactly as the seventeen bushel land. If we had plowed it it would have brought the yield up somewhat but probably not near the larger amount.

Question: This is important in the south central part of the province?

Professor Bracken: In the second crop after land is broken this grass is often the chief cause of low yields. I am not favoring one way or the other; under one set of conditions back-setting is desirable, under another it may not be. I am simply trying to bring out and prove to you certain facts which you can apply to your own conditions.

The next is the influence of the time of breaking on a yield of wheat. Whatever else you may think I am saying to you is theory, these figures are actual results. We may explain them as we like, but these are the facts under the conditions we have and they all mean something and perhaps we can draw conclusions from them. These pieces of land were broken in June, July, August and September and the following spring. Breaking in June gave thirty-seven bushels, in July 33, in August 28, in September 23, and the following spring 22. In dry years the lowest may run down to five or two and it might run up to about twenty for the June breaking. It is moisture that under our conditions limits the yield. As a matter of fact we have as good soil as there is anywhere, but we cannot get a bushel of wheat if we do not have water. June is our rainy month and the native grasses take the moisture out of the soil just as fast as growing crops do, and if we stop these grasses pumping the moisture out, the moisture that is in the land remains there; but if these grasses are still growing and pumping the moisture out and we come along and plow the land after the moisture has gone, and put a crop on it, we do not get good results.

Question: Has not the opening of the soil to the sun got a lot to do with it.

Professor Bracken: Yes, heat and moisture as well; this is one of the purposes of breaking the prairie, that the moisture and heat together may rot the sod; sod won't rot if it is dry.

This shows the influence of the time of breaking on the yield of barley; in June 43, in July 38, in August 33, in September 25 and the following spring 18 bushels per acre. As we get into the regions where there is a greater rainfall we can do our breaking later; in the northern part of the province we can break in July or August and get fair yields. I suppose you could do that in Northern Alberta, but I do not suppose you could do it in Southern Alberta.

* The influence of the time of breaking on the yield of flax: June 19 bushels, July 16, August 15, September 14, and the following spring 13. Flax does better on spring breaking or late breaking than any other crop we grow, but it does not do as well everywhere even when it receives exactly the same treatment. It is just a question of time, and we are beginning to think that timeliness is more important than a lot of extra work. To kill the native vegetation, to store moisture and conserve it, and to prepare a seed-bed should be our whole aim.

Tillage of stubble. If we are going to do fall cultivation of stubble the earlier it is done the better. This (referring to chart) shows early plowing in 1911 and late plowing and early plowing in 1913 and late plowing in 1913. The average difference between the times was three weeks. After we take the crop off in the fall the sun beats down on the land and the moisture escapes. The sooner we can stop that and the sooner we can open up the surface so that any rains that do come may possibly go in, the better. Of course, it costs more to cultivate early after harvest than it does later; it is a busier time, but if we cannot do it, we cannot get that little increase, and if we can do it we will get the increase. (The increase from early work ranged from about one to four bushels in different years.)

We believe in harrowing every bit of plowing that is done, except plowing on the sod, as soon as possible after the plowing. We turn up the land and leave it, and every day causes evaporation of moisture, and every inch of moisture we lose decreases the yield of wheat next year from two to four bushels per acre. (Referring to chart showing effect of harrowing). Harrowing the land once with heavy harrows increased the yield practically two bushels of wheat per acre, an operation that costs about twenty cents.

A Delegate: Don't you think that one discing in the fall would be much better?

Professor Bracken: Yes, it would be much better, it will pack it as well, but it will cost you a good deal more.

Another Delegate: Don't you find it a good system to have the harrow follow the plow?

Professor Bracken: Yes, we like the harrow attached to the plow. In any case harrowing ought to be done the same day.

Another Delegate: Take a section of harrow and hitch it behind the plow.

Professor Bracken: In my personal opinion that is as good a procedure as a man can follow; the sooner it is done the better.

A Delegate: Don't you find you have to put the harrow over it immediately after discing?

Professor Bracken: As deep as the disc goes it will loosen it and dry it, but the moisture that is below that will probably be better conserved. You may lose more in what you disc, but you will save more below it. Harrowing pays better on land that does not drift, than any other tilling operation. If we harrow too much on old soils drifting is encouraged and we have to use some other implements. Some men are beginning to use spring tooth cultivators so as to leave the soil rougher and not get it so fine on top.

The next thing is packing. (Refers to chart). Packing deep plowing increased the yield two bushels six pounds, packing shallow plowing 40 lbs. and packing unplowed land three years out of four decreased the yield. When the land is hard it does not need to be packed, but elsewhere it is the correct thing to pack it.

This (referring to a chart) is a summary of the tests we have made on stubble land. This (7 bus.) is stubble that had the native quack grass in it and when we put it under cultivation one portion of that crop gave us two bushels to the acre. This was stubble land that had no grass in it and it yielded twelve bushels per acre. Surface cultivation gave nearly sixteen bushels. Burnt in the spring and surface cultivated, sixteen bushels and thirty-three pounds. That method has given us larger net results than any other that we have followed, letting the stubble stay on it during the winter to hold the snow and burn it off in the spring.

A Delegate: What year was that done?

Professor Bracken: In 1911, 1913 and 1914.

A Delegate: I had a little experience in 1914 in a crop I burned; where I disc'd it I got fifteen bushels and where I drilled it I got sixty.

Professor Bracken: This average is the average of all the plots that we burned, one plot was not cultivated, one was harrowed, and one was disc'd and harrowed and one was disc'd and packed and harrowed. Your experience is very interesting. Did the seed start as well in the one as the other?

A Delegate: Yes, it all came up in good shape.

Professor Bracken: What is your explanation?

A Delegate: I just put it to the discing, the wind let it dry out more.

Professor Bracken: Do you think you got your seed in deep enough?

A Delegate: It went in deeper than where it was not disced.

Professor Bracken: We have a black loam soil, and in the spring it would slack down just like quick-lime would do. If it were not for the grass it would be foolish for a man to disc some land. He may have a more perfect seed bed than he can get by tilling, and it does not do any good except for the weeds; under your conditions your discing would dry it out too deep; under other conditions it might be a big advantage.

In dryer districts shallower plowing of stubble land ought to be done. I am not talking about summer-fallowing, we believe in deep plowing, for the fallow, for the more moisture there is the deeper it ought to be plowed, that is our experience. One year deep fall plowing gave us the best results, another year deep spring plowing, that seems to depend upon the climatic conditions that exist after the plowing is done. If we plow the land and it turns up in great chunks we cannot expect that land to produce well, and it may be advisable to delay plowing because the land is not in condition.

A Delegate: Land that would be as dry as that, there would be no sense in putting a plow in it.

Professor Bracken: I was thinking more of fall plowing; you would be taking a chance, of course.

A Delegate: Which gives the best results all the way through, spring plowing or fall plowing?

Professor Bracken: Usually fall plowing done early has given us larger yields than spring plowing; but spring plowing has given us better results than late fall plowing; sometimes it is a lot better, sometimes the fall plowing beats the spring plowing, but on the average that is what we got.

A Delegate: Does that apply to wheat?

Professor Bracken: With oats we got a little better results we think from spring plowing, but with wheat fall plowing is generally best; the cereals are all pretty much alike, wheat, oats and barley and so on, yet we have had a little better result from spring plowing with oats and barley than with wheat.

A Delegate: Referring to the land coming up in chunks in the fall, will not the frost dissolve these chunks so that in the spring it will be in good condition?

Professor Bracken: If it does, it is all right. It sometimes does, it will on some land, but some types of soil won't break down enough. On other types of soil it will break down.

A Delegate: My observation is this,—if it comes up chunky in the fall, provided that the harrows are put on it at the right time in the spring, if the frost does not dissolve these chunks after it gets through then there is a different method altogether. There is a season to catch it with the harrows when they will bring it all down to a nice emulsion and make a splendid seed-bed, I do not care how rough the land comes up in the fall.

Professor Bracken: When we have fall plowed land that is in good condition we can save the moisture then in the furrows slice. In lumpy land the moisture in the furrow-slice would all be lost and probably much out of the subsoil. Every ten inches of snow will mean an inch of moisture. The lumpy land might hold a little more snow.

Now, as to fallowing. Some say that we should summer-fallow every other year, some once in three and others once in four years. The usual practice is to summer-fallow once in three or four years. In some favored places they may not have to summer-fallow at all. We think the fallow ought to be plowed early in the rainy season. (Refers to chart). Plowed June 1st, the dryest year we have ever had, 30 bushels. Plowed July 1st, 20 bushels, oats June 1st 53 bushels and July 1st 41 bushels; barley June 1st 28 bushels and July 1st 16 bushels. We do not always get these differences but in that particular year we did, and every crop emphasizes the same thing. Sometimes it may not be advisable to plow the first chance we get, the weed seeds may not have germinated on the 1st of June, but if we get them germinated we can then plow as early as we choose. Of course it costs more to keep down weeds on early plowing and it is fair to balance

the extra cost of production against the extra yield. I am going to speak a little bit later about northern farming, the farther north you go the more rain you have and the later you can leave a summer-fallow, but in the dryer districts the sooner it can be plowed the better. Away up in the north they get good results from later plowing.

Question: Is it good practice to disc your summer-fallow, would you hasten the germination of weed seeds by discing?

Professor Bracken: Sometimes you will but not always; if it is just before rain it will increase it, but if we disc and leave it loose and it does not rain, then we may not achieve the results we desire. Cultivation before fallowing is a good practice but it costs money.

Question: Does it not germinate them as early as possible in the spring?

Professor Bracken: Yes, it is good practice to disc the fallow, but the more work we do the more it costs.

In some districts it does not pay to grow a pasture crop on the fallow; in other districts it does,—here are the figures: (reads from chart)—18-22 & 30, as against 28 and 42 and 48. If we grow weeds on the fallow or grow anything else except perhaps a crop that is cultivated we use up considerable moisture. It is a good thing to grow pasture crop on fallow that grow so rank and late that they often freeze. After a pasture crop on such a fallow cereals mature earlier, and grow less rank and are often profitable more than heavier later crops. But in very dry regions the pasture crop should be thin and light or dispensed with altogether.

If we have creeping rooted grasses in the fallow it ought to be plowed twice, but if we have not it ought not to be plowed only once; once plowing in the rainy season won't kill quack grass.

Question: Do you plow shallow the first time and then deeper the second?

Professor Bracken: As a matter of fact that is what you do; the first time we do not want to turn the weed seeds on the surface too far down and so that plowing is shallow; and the second deeper; otherwise we would plow deep the first time, but we do not want to turn the weed seeds too far down.

Rotation of crops is another means at man's disposal for controlling yields. The best information we have to-day regarding the value of crop rotation is from the Rothamstead Experimental Station in England, where for nearly seventy years wheat has been grown side by side under different conditions. The average yield for sixty-four years is thirteen bushels where it has been grown continuously; where it has been grown in rotation the yield is 26 bushels. The best information that America affords to-day is supplied by the Campus of the University of Illinois. Their figures are for corn grown continuously 27 bushels, grown in rotation of corn and oats 46, grown in rotation of corn, oats and clover 58 bushels. Coming nearer home the average yield in North Dakota for thirteen years was thirteen bushels. The average yield of wheat in all the tests where different crops were grown in different years was nineteen bushels.

Coming nearer home still we are studying eighty different rotations of crops at Saskatoon and we find that wheat after wheat gives twenty-five bushels, wheat after flax, 27, wheat after peas 32, wheat after roots such as potatoes, 33, wheat after corn 35, wheat after fallow 38.

Barley after wheat, 30, after flax 31, after peas 32, after roots and potatoes 33, after corn 36, after fallow 38. We think that corn in many parts of Saskatchewan does not any more than pay its way but because it leaves the land in nearly as good condition as a fallow, we think it is going to have a place, because we save the cost of handling the fallow, and that is a big item. It may not have a big place in the northern part of the province, but we think it may have in the southern part.

Question: What is the best variety of corn?

Professor Bracken: The one that we recommend is North-Western Dent.

Mr. Hutton: The same applies to us.

Professor Bracken: Mr. Hutton says North-Western Dent is good here too.

We will have to use livestock. I have no particular love for livestock, but we will have to grow livestock, not because it may be more paying, not because it will increase our gross return, but in order to lower the cost of production, in order to control the weeds, in order to lessen soil drifting, and in order to lessen risk.

We will have to have crop rotations. I do not know what yours will be, I do not know what our own will be; we cannot use the rotations that they use in Illinois, nor in Ontario, nor in England; we must develop our own. Some of our people got sixty bushels of wheat to the acre last year; they won't start to grow livestock nor to rotate crops until they get another failure like they did two years ago, but in the end we will have to come to it.

Efficient Management: It is a very easy matter to learn how to grow crops, anybody can learn that in a little while, but it is a very different matter to learn how to grow crops profitably. I think our farmers, and I am one of them, fall down in the business end of our work. We must study the business end more and not the production end alone.

We should use legume crops and inoculation; in Eastern America they are paying fifteen cents a pound for nitrogen in commercial fertilizers. In the air over an acre there is 70,000,000 pounds of nitrogen. By growing clover and alfalfa we can get hold of that enormous supply. There is nitrogen in the air over every acre enough to grow 50 bushel crops for a million years; we won't need the legume crop until some of this surplus fertility is gone, then we will need it, and that is the way we can get it.

The Use of Manure: The normal soil in Saskatchewan and Alberta contains as much nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium as land in the central part of Illinois that is producing one hundred bushels of threshed grain to the acre and selling for \$250 per acre. We can, by using manures intelligently on this land, increase the yield, and if we do not use them intelligently we can decrease the yield.

A few years ago it was my privilege to visit the Experimental Fields at the University of Illinois and on one of the buildings is this motto:—"The wealth of Illinois is in her soil, and on its intelligent development depends her ultimate success." That is more true of Alberta than it was of Illinois; we must find out how to develop our soil and the more we find out how to do it and the better we put into practice the things we learn the greater our success as a province will be.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Professor Bracken for his address.

ADDRESS BY MR. HUNTER

The President announced a few changes in the programme and that his address would be delivered at the afternoon session and introduced Mr. Hunter, the President of the Provincial Poultry Association.

Mr. Hunter:

Mr. President and Gentlemen: I do not know whether I can make myself heard or not, but I have been suffering from a severe cold for some time and it has affected my throat. We are very glad to have this privilege of meeting the Fairs Association this afternoon, because we feel we are part of your organization, although we are not representing as large animals in our department as some of the livestock breeders, yet we have the boys that do the crowing, and they are going to be heard from in the future in Alberta; there is no doubt about that. But what we are here for this afternoon is to tell you that some of the fellows that are raising the crowers are not just honest, they are not playing the game fair, and we are after their scalps, that is plain English; we have got some of them, we have kept them out of our Association. Now they are coming into your Association, and they are out on the war path to make all the money they can out of you and your fairs, and we have no control over them unless you are members of our Provincial Poultry Association. As soon as we can get the members of the different fairs to affiliate with the Provincial Association we can keep them from exhibiting at your fairs. We asked some time ago that the local fairs should affiliate with us, and I am pleased to say that a lot of the fairs have affiliated with us outside of the larger ones, and we have not had any

trouble from that source. We have not found these fellows doing business at the big fairs, but they are operating in the smaller shows, taking your money, which they have no right to take. In fact, a great many of the fairs have a rule that the property exhibited must be bona fide the property of the exhibitor; we have had proof of that, that some of these fellows do not own half the birds that they are showing, and some of them are not worth the third prize that you are offering when you are not offering anything; they are not emblematic of the breed, they are simply birds with feathers on, and they are taking the people's money, for two-thirds of it is given by the Government, and as soon as we can get every fair in the province affiliated we propose to deal with them. At Lethbridge we passed a resolution that any fair in the province might become affiliated with the Provincial Association by acknowledging in their prize list that they are affiliated with the Provincial Association and by doing this we are going to get after these fellows and put them off the road. We want to encourage good poultry in the province, but we cannot do it by exhibiting birds that are not fit to be exhibited, that should not be there, and wasting the people's money. We will have a list here to-morrow, and if you want to affiliate yourself, you will kindly sign it or take the forms home with you to your association and we will be very glad to have you return them, and your fair will be watched over by representative poultrymen of the Province, and we will put a stop to this irregularity. We are trying to get up, with the assistance of the department, a prize list that will be workable, that will be helpful to promote the poultry industry. We do not believe we should pay prize money to a lot of professionals, we are here to develop the poultry business, that will bring a return in money to the Province, and we want your support, if you will get behind us the Alberta Poultry Association, which has all the poultry associations of the province affiliated with it, will get behind you, and we will do something that will put the business of exhibiting poultry where it belongs.

Mr. Mace:

I would like to support that gentleman's remarks; we were large sufferers at our last exhibition at Vermilion, we had to contend with exactly the condition of things that he has now referred to. We had sprung upon us two exhibitors quite unexpectedly, bringing to our exhibition a very long list of poultry, pretty well a carload, and between the two of them they mulcted us in about \$70 or \$80 in prizes, which we considered was outside our prize list, yet our prize list was not quite framed in such a way that it excluded them.

That has this effect, we negotiated this year with Mr. Foley so as to protect ourselves in years to come, and naturally we are endeavoring to take such steps that will exclude gentlemen like we had this year at the exhibition at Vermilion.

Mr. McIntosh: There are one or two cases in all the poultry shows about the one time; in one case there was more money given to an exhibit of bantams than there was to all the rest of the prize list combined.

The President:

I think the Provincial Association are certainly working to the best interests of the poultry industry, and the greater support they can get the more will be their usefulness and the more they will work along lines suitable to the majority of the smaller organizations.

ADDRESS BY MR. RICHARDSON

At the request of the Chairman the Vice-President, Mr. West, takes the chair.

Mr. Richardson:

For the past three or four weeks I have been devoting considerable time in working out a new method of awarding prizes; as you know I am not a speaker, and I thought best to put my remarks in writing so that you could take the suggested scheme home with you and think it over.

AN IMPROVED SYSTEM FOR THE PAYMENT OF PRIZES AT EXHIBITIONS

Address Delivered by E. L. Richardson, President Alberta
Agricultural Fairs Association, at the Annual Meeting
Held in Edmonton, March 1-2, 1916

From a study of a large number of prize lists of the leading exhibitions of Canada, United States and Great Britain, there appears little evidence of improvement in the basis for the payment of prize money since the first prize list was printed many years ago. We have evidently all been following the leader quite as faithfully, as the entries in our sheep classes have a well-earned reputation of doing. We have all, no doubt, seen most glaring instances of injustice to exhibitors in the present method of distributing prize money. For the past five years we have endeavored to correct the old system of payment of prizes in connection with the poultry department of the Calgary Industrial Exhibition. Some other exhibitions have tried the payment of prizes for poultry on a sliding scale as above, but I do not know of any having followed the system to what appears to be its logical conclusion, the payment of practically all prizes on an extension of the above principle. The difficulty of the great fluctuations possible under such a system has, perhaps, been the cause of its not being adopted.

Following are a few of the evils presented by a study of the old system: There is a continual struggle on the part of breeders interested in breeds which have very little competition, and many times no competition, to have the classification and prizes for the breed they are exhibiting placed on the same basis as breeds which have the largest number of entries. Where this request is not acceded to, the directors are accused of favoring one breed. Many exhibitions seek to avoid this difficulty, place all breeds on the same basis and let the breeds work out their own salvation. One exhibitor making three entries in every class with no competition gets the same money which in another breed is divided among ten, fifteen and sometimes twenty exhibitors. They have to win their prizes in stiff competition. The unsuccessful exhibitors in such classes, which outnumber the winners, show sufficient pluck to come back perhaps two or three years and take the same treatment. They finally become discouraged, go out of the pure-bred business with considerable loss to themselves, as well as to the province. The exhibition has to depend on a new crop of enthusiasts appearing to save that class from becoming one that has little or no competition. Such classes then lose their educational value to the exhibition! The money won by the lone exhibitor is of course useful, the prize ribbons are numerous, but he must dread the question as to how strong the competition was. The real incentive to improvement, strong competition, is lacking.

A prize list should give reasonable encouragement to stockmen introducing new breeds, and give the general public an opportunity of getting into that kind of stock if its good qualities sufficiently commend themselves. A list should also encourage the man who is a new exhibitor in breeds where the competition is the strongest. He must not be permitted to become discouraged by being continually beaten by experienced exhibitors with highly fitted stock, which seems impossible for the amateur to produce. After all, the optimistic amateur provides the market for the man who tops the class. Then it is equally as important that the expert should receive the encouragement due him. He has gained knowledge by years of experience and application, and is able to win in the strongest company. If this were not logical why should the amateur strive to beat his more experienced opponent? It is the expert who raises the standard of the competition, provides the models for those of less experience to aim to reproduce. There appears therefore, to be important reasons for endeavoring to so arrange a prize list that it will give encouragement to all exhibitors according to their relative needs.

Exhibition directorates are anxious to offer the greatest incentive towards improvement by paying the maximum amount in prizes. If they were not sufficiently sincere in this respect, there is sufficient competition in exhibitions to ensure this. Other educational institutions are provided with

funds for their operations. These are not subject to be cut in half, even if it should rain for a whole month of the school term. Exhibition revenue is subject to the very greatest fluctuations from weather and attendance. They receive Government grants to pay a portion of the prizes. They have to find and add the balance of the money besides the considerable additional sum necessary to pay the expenses of the competition. In this way, I venture to say, the grants paid to exhibitions to help pay premiums, give greater practical aid to improvement of live stock and agriculture than would twice the amount expended in any other way. The exhibitions have the benefit of the experience of their several directors as well as the co-operation of the cities and towns. They popularize the events and thereby provide an additional incentive to prize winners over and above the money value that accompanies the awards. They pay the exhibitors the full amount of Government grants to which they add from 33 to 100 per cent. I do not think that full credit is generally given the work these institutions are doing in this way, apart from the general benefit they are to the community where the exhibition is held. Can you imagine the kind of livestock which would be found on the comparatively few farms if it were not for these annual competitions and the distribution in Canada alone of hundreds of thousands of dollars in prizes.

If the value of the work exhibitions are doing is conceded, even greater care should be exercised in the future to increase their usefulness. The uncertainty of their revenue calls for a more accurate method of knowing what amount will have to be paid out in prizes. Under the present system an exhibition will offer, say, \$30,000, and guess that \$15,000 of it will be taken. They could offer \$40,000 in such a way that only approximately \$15,000 would be awarded. They perhaps estimate that they could actually pay \$18,000. If only \$15,000 is won the exhibitor is out \$3,000. If \$21,000 is awarded in prizes, the exhibitor has \$3,000 the exhibition could not afford to pay, and the directors go on personal notes to the bank to get the money. Naturally, the directors endeavor to arrange the list on a basis to pay a shade less than they might if they knew what the actual amount would be. Their anxiety to offer as much as possible and the annual increase in entries, particularly in Western Canada, calls more frequently for the payment of more prize money than they can afford to pay, than for less. It does not seem unreasonable, therefore, that there should be a way to determine at the time the prize list is being prepared, the actual amount that will have to be paid. This information will also be appreciated by the prospective exhibitor.

The following proposed new system of payment of prizes according to entries, and the payment of a definite amount corrects at least a great many of the defects of the old system, besides adding many new features. The proposed system is not given as a perfect one, but one which may no doubt be improved considerably in the light of experience.

The following draft of amounts to be offered for prizes is, of course, based upon the payment of a stated amount. The amounts to be offered in the different classes should be worked out by using previous years' entries as a basis, and a sufficient margin left, say, ten to twenty per cent., so that an increase in entries would not call for more prize money than offered. Balance between amount won, and the total amount guaranteed, would be paid pro rata to all winners on the following basis: 40 per cent. each to the winners in the horse and cattle classes, and 10 per cent. each to sheep and swine prize winners. This would appear to be a more equitable basis as between the exhibition and the exhibitor than paying all the amount that might not be won for, say, cattle to the cattle exhibitors, and the exhibition might at the same time be called upon to pay, as a result of an exceptionally heavy entry of horses, \$500 more than the amount guaranteed. If \$5,000 was offered for horses and cattle and \$1,000 each for sheep and swine, and the cattle entries were exceptionally low, winning \$2,000 less than guaranteed, and the swine entries only won \$500; if the horses and sheep classes were well filled and all prize money taken, it would, if the amount of prizes offered were worked out on a fair basis, show these departments were entitled to a larger proportion of the \$12,000. Hence the advisability of apportioning 40

per cent. of the added money to horses and 10 per cent. to the sheep department. An injustice would be done if all the guaranteed money not won by the cattle entries were added to that department. Such a division would give them too large a proportion of the \$12,000 in comparison with the horse department.

An objection to this system which may properly be made is that the same value in prizes is offered for aged stock of higher value as for young stock. This is, of course, contrary to what we are used to. It is doubtful if the average exhibitor is much concerned when he gets his cheque for prizes how much of it he has won with the old cow or with this cow's calf. Most exhibitors show from ten to twenty head, and this would not make much difference. This difficulty might be overcome by paying an additional percentage to 3-year-olds or over, and deducting a per centage for yearlings or under. It would appear best, however, not to complicate the system for this consideration until it has been in operation for a year or two. The system is so different from the old basis of payment and has such possibilities that this and many other adjustments will be made as a result of experience.

PRIZES FOR LIVE STOCK

\$12,000.00 will be paid for prizes for horses, cattle, sheep and swine. The amount offered in the tabulated statements under each department is based on an estimated amount of \$5,000.00 each for horses and cattle, and \$1,000.00 each for sheep and swine. If the amount won in these four departments, together with the value of special prizes, does not total \$12,000.00, the balance will be paid pro rata to the prize winners (except in specials and where otherwise stated) in these departments on the basis of 40 per cent. each to the horse and cattle departments, and 10 per cent. each to the sheep and swine departments.

Except in specials and where otherwise stated, prizes will be paid in the several classes on the basis shown in the tabulated list of prizes given under each department according to the number of animals entered and shown in each class. Not more than three entries may be shown in any class by the same exhibitor, although additional entries may be made in the regular way if an exhibitor wishes to have more stock at the exhibition for advertising purposes. In the event of stabling not being provided for such additional entries the entry fees on same will be refunded.

First and second prize winners only may compete for championships and no entry is necessary. Entries for special prizes are free, but entry is necessary unless otherwise stated.

CATTLE

For information regarding prizes see "Prizes for Livestock." Entry fee, \$1.50.

Prize and Value

Total Val.	No. of Entries to Qualify	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
\$15	1 or 2	10	5									
20	3 or 4	12	8	5	R.							
34	5 or 6	15	12	7	5	R.						
66	7 or 8	20	18	15	8	5	R.					
83	9 or 10	25	20	15	10	8	5	R.				
113	11 or 12	30	25	20	15	10	8	5	R.			
148	13 or 14	35	30	25	20	15	10	8	5	R.		
188	15 or 16	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	8	5	R.	
233	17 or over	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	8	5	R.

The classification for purebreds need only be printed once. The names of the breeds can be placed at the left hand side with the class number under each, as follows:

Class Numbers

Red Polled Jerseys		Galloways Holsteins		Aberdeen Angus Ayrshires		Shorthorns		Herefords	
Bulls									
1	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	Three years or over.	
2	11	21	31	41	51	61	71	Two years.	
3	12	22	32	42	52	62	72	Senior yearling, etc.	
Cows:									
4	13	23	33	43	53	63	73	Three years or over, etc.	

HORSES

PRIZES FOR PUREBRED CLASSES ONLY

(Not including Ponies)

For information regarding prizes, see "Prizes for Livestock."
Entry fee, \$2.00.

Prize and Value

Total Value	No. of Entries to Qualify	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
\$ 18	1 or 2	12	6									
30	3 or 4	15	10	5	R.							
50	5 or 6	20	15	10	5	R.						
75	7 or 8	25	20	15	10	5	R.					
105	9 or 10	30	25	20	15	10	5	R.				
140	11 or 12	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	R.			
180	13 or 14	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	R.		
225	15 or 16	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	R.	
275	17 or over	50	45	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	R.

PRIZES FOR HORSE CLASSES

(Except Purebreds and Boys' and Girls' Classes)

Following list, including Purebred Pony Classes.

In boys' and girls' classes where the entry is free, one-half of the prize money only, according to the following list, will be paid.

Prize for four-horse team, four times following list.

Entry fee, \$1.50.

Prize and Value

Total Value	No. of Entries to Qualify	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
\$ 15	1 or 2	10	5									
24	3 or 4	12	7	5	R.							
37	5 or 6	15	10	7	5	R.						
55	7 to 9	18	15	10	7	5	R.					
75	10 to 12	20	18	15	10	7	5	R.				
97	13 to 15	22	20	18	15	10	7	5	R.			
122	16 to 19	25	22	20	18	15	10	7	5	R.		
152	20 to 25	30	25	22	20	18	15	10	7	5	R.	
187	26 or over	35	30	25	22	20	18	15	10	7	5	R.

SHEEP

For information regarding prizes, see "Prizes for Live Stock." Entry fee, 75c.

Prize and Value

Total Value	No. of Entries to Qualify	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
\$ 8	1 or 2	5	3									
16	3 or 4	8	5	3	R.							
31	5 or 6	10	7	5	3	R.						
40	7 or 8	11	8	6	5	3	R.					
51	9 or 10	12	10	8	6	5	3	R.				
65	11 or 12	14	12	10	8	6	5	3	R.			
81	13 to 15	16	14	12	10	8	6	5	3	R.		
99	16 to 19	18	16	14	12	10	8	6	5	3	R.	
119	20 or over	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	6	5	3	R.

SWINE

Same conditions and prizes as for sheep.

POULTRY

\$1,000 to be paid in prizes for poultry.

The following is the basis on which prizes will be paid in all classes under Poultry, except where otherwise stated. Entry fee 35c.

Turkeys and Geese, twice the amount shown, and entry fee, 50c.

Flocks, 5 hens and 1 cock, four times the amount shown. Entry fee, \$1.00.

Pigeons and pets, half the amount shown. Entry fee, 20c.

Not more than three entries may be made in any class by the same exhibitor.

If the prizes won for poultry on this basis, together with the amount of the special prizes won, does not total \$1,000, the difference will be paid to all prize winners pro rata, according to the number of prizes won.

Prize and Value

Total Value	No. of Entries to Qualify	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
\$ 1.50	1 or 2	1.00	.50									
3.00	3 or 4	1.50	1.00	.50	R.							
5.00	5 or 6	2.00	1.50	1.00	.50	R.						
7.50	7 to 10	2.50	2.00	1.50	1.00	.50	R.					
10.50	11 to 15	3.00	2.50	2.00	1.50	1.00	.50	R.				
14.00	16 to 20	3.50	3.00	2.50	2.00	1.50	1.00	.50	R.			
18.50	21 to 25	4.00	3.50	3.00	2.50	2.00	1.50	1.00	.50	R.		
22.50	26 to 30	4.50	4.00	3.50	3.00	2.50	2.00	1.50	1.00	.50	R.	
27.50	31 or over	5.00	4.50	4.00	3.50	3.00	2.50	2.00	1.50	1.00	.50	R.

This basis of payment is intended to make the following improvements for the exhibitor and the exhibition, besides making better use of the money grants for the payment of prizes.

The exhibitor will know the exact amount to be paid out in prizes at an exhibition. One with experience can estimate almost as accurately his possible winnings. There is also the possibility of his getting sufficient bonus to refund his entry fees.

Each exhibitor will be interested in getting other exhibitors to show. Prizes far more evenly divided. Amateurs taking third, fourth or fifth prizes in strong competition will get as much as if winning first on old basis of payment. Exhibitors of experience will win a greater amount of prize money as the number of amateur exhibitors competing against him increases.

All breeds on exactly same basis and will be paid the same amount of money just as soon as their entries are equal.

Every inducement for new breeders to become exhibitors, as there are such a small proportion of exhibits outside the money, a reversal of the usual order of things at exhibitions.

Exhibitions will grow more rapidly, and as they increase the directors will be able to offer additional prize money.

The serious difficulty at first experienced in working out this system as to the definite amount to be paid is overcome by endeavoring to offer 10 or 20 per cent. less than is to be paid to provide some safeguard for the exhibition in the event of considerable increase in entries, and yet providing that the balance, if any, be paid to the prize winners. It is not thought advisable to provide for a reduction in prizes offered in the event of the awards exceeding the total to be paid, as this would unnecessarily confuse the exhibitor. This condition can, no doubt, be prevented by the reduction of 10 to 20 per cent. in the amount offered.

Under the new system such a case as the following would be impossible. At our last exhibition, entries for a breed which in previous years had been scarcely represented, were much greater than for another breed which had always had good competition. The largest amount of prizes were, however, offered in the latter class. Regrets were expressed to the exhibitors of the breed which showed such growth, and a notation made to reverse these classes for next year. Next year the entries will probably be reversed and the list would do another injustice.

Restricting the entries to compete in each class to three from one exhibitor will prevent to a reasonable extent, an exhibitor beating the system in a class where there is no competition without unnecessarily curtailing entries. Only in eight cases in our last exhibition were there over three entries in a class made by one exhibitor.

In the poultry classes we are suggesting a new class in the utility breeds for a flock of five hens and one cock. I think we will get more people interested in the poultry business if we show a nice pen of fowls than if we show them individually. As our fair is the first week in July we are discontinuing classes for birds of 1916 but we pay the same money for the other prizes and for the flocks as we paid last year. Flocks cannot be taken out to get first prize in another class, they have got to be a separate entry. We will make pens of wire screens, about six feet by eight feet. I got the idea regarding flocks impressed upon my mind at the Minnesota State Fair; they have had these classes for eight years, and the secretary tells me it is one of the most interesting features to the public. Fanciers would still have their own classes, but we want something more interesting to our visitors.

As to the basis of payments, the more I studied this basis for the payment of prizes the more I got interested in it; I do not for a moment say that this is a perfect basis at all. This is a system that can be worked out so the experience of the different directorates and management who use it may see fit. It will no doubt be a considerable improvement, and no doubt it can be arranged that the more expensive and aged animals will get more money, but it does not seem to me that that is so important as to get away from the gross injustice of the old system. It seems to me that when a man gets his cheque for the prizes, for the exhibit he has made, it is not so absolutely material that he gets a larger amount for the old than for the young stock.

Before presenting this to you, I sent it off to a number of breeders and some exhibitors, and I have quite a number of replies expressing their opinion. By reading extracts from them we can see how it is viewed in different parts of the country. I am not presenting this system to get the convention to adopt it. I am just giving it to you for what it is worth. We are going to try it at the Calgary Exhibition, and we are trying it at the Spring Show.

Question: Have you worked this out as compared with other prize lists issued by Calgary?

Mr. Richardson: Yes, we have it worked out, but the prize list does not look quite so good where you cannot offer so much money. We offered \$3,750.00, guaranteed, I think the prize list will perhaps amount to considerably more than that.

Question: How will that compare with last year's spring show?

Mr. Richardson: Last year we paid \$2,650.00, it is a little over \$1,000 additional.

In order to get at this basis I had to make out an estimate of what I thought we could pay, and then got at it by taking each of these classes and working them out. We try to get the tabulated list of prizes from 10 to 20 per cent. less than you are going to pay, to provide for additional entries. If the amount you wish to pay out is not won the balance is paid to the winners pro rata according to the number of prizes won.

Question: Do I understand you to say that you are going to adopt this at your own fairs?

Mr. Richardson: Yes, our exhibition directors spent over two hours considering it and after discussing it very fully, adopted in unanimously. They thought it would be a greater encouragement to a greater number of exhibitors.

Question: You think it would be a better plan for the small fairs?

Mr. Richardson: I think it might be well to go slow. I think it could be worked out, but I have not worked it out on a basis for a small fair.

Question: Ours is a small fair; there is one dairy herd, and one Polled Angus herd, these classes are getting the same amount of money as the Shorthorn where there is any amount of cattle. How can that be worked out?

Mr. Richardson: That is what it is for. I have a firm conviction that we can do the greatest good to the livestock interests by helping our own breeders most. We wish to offer every inducement for outside stock to come in, but we will never get anywhere ourselves by discouraging our own people, and I have been trying to work out an equitable basis as between our exhibitors and outside exhibitors. It is not a fair proposition that the same amount of money should be paid to twenty animals, property of one person, of one breed, as would be paid to fifty or sixty or seventy animals owned by ten or twenty exhibitors in another breed. We may try to arrange these classes from year to year, according to the number shown the last year, but we are wrong more often than we are right, because they fluctuate so. Just to mention one instance: I remember distinctly having a splendid display of mares in a purebred class one year, and they were all good entries. We decided that as they had made such a splendid showing we would just put them in on the same basis as one of the larger classes. Next year this class fell to pieces. Of course in the new system everybody is encouraged to make more entries, but we have to try to eliminate the chance of making the system unworkable by permitting one person to make unlimited entries in one class.

Mr. Bjorkeland: I have looked over this suggested basis since it first came out and it seems to me that, suppose an exhibition association wish to offer \$6,000 for prize money; we will say that is the limit; I am a little afraid that we cannot work this out so as to safeguard ourselves.

Mr. Richardson: We have met that by cutting the amount you have to offer fifteen or twenty per cent. below. That may be too high in one class and too low in something else, but on the average of all the departments together if we say we will offer fifteen or twenty per cent. below, I do not think there will be very much danger of our going over on the total; we may go over on one, but we would not be any the worse off than we are on the old system. If you can pay \$6,000 and you offer \$12,000 or \$10,000 on the old basis, you have not any means of telling at all how much is going to be won, and under this system we are trying to remedy that.

Mr. Bjorkeland: I believe this is the fairest system to pay prize money under, and I believe that this is a thing that everyone should try to work out, and I for one will certainly try to see if we cannot adopt a similar system at our fair.

Question: There is one benefit I believe I can see in your system that has not been pointed out, in respect to what the Minister of Agriculture said the other day, he made the statement that he believed there were too many small fairs; and it seems to me in following out your prize list plan it

will be an incentive to some of the smaller fairs to combine and in that way enlarge the number of entries in certain classes and make competition all the keener and the fair all the better.

Mr. Gilbert: The exhibition associations and the judges in the province these last two or three years have been trying to overcome this difficulty in different ways. In some classes both in the cattle, sheep and hogs there have been twenty to thirty entries in one class and two or three in another. During the last two or three years the quality in the exhibits has been deteriorating in one class while in the other classes it is improving, and there are certain classes of stock which are improving from year to year. I know during this last summer the judge had occasion to cut the prizes in two on his own accord; he has the privilege of doing that if he thinks the exhibits are not fit, and this scheme takes the responsibility off the judge's shoulders in cutting down the prizes if he thinks the animals are not fit to win a prize, and it will encourage more exhibitors to go into the business. I am exhibiting two breeds of hogs, and I have showed the hogs and won first and second, when I have showed just the two animals in the one class, but I have showed in a class of sixteen or eighteen, and I have been more satisfied to get the fourth prize in competition with them than I have been to win a first and second in a class of two, and I know it is the truth that the two animals put together were not worth the hind legs of the one that won fourth prize. Of course, if we can win money with poor animals we are going to do it, but if we get competition we will have to improve the exhibits and it will double the size of the fairs in the Province. I think Mr. Richardson has the scheme that we have been looking for for a number of years and we hope the most of the fairs will take hold of it and use it as much as possible.

Question: I understand you intend to adopt it in the Calgary show, and I think our directors will deal with it, and it will save quite a lot of printing. I take it you would not ask the wholesale adoption of it until it has been tried?

Mr. Richardson: No, I would not ask the convention to pass on it at all. I think probably there will be a dozen or two that will adopt it this year, and we will be able to get some information as to how many additional people can get money from the prize list.

Question: Perhaps in the small fairs we might adopt it in a tentative sort of a way by adopting it in some departments.

Mr. Richardson: Well, the livestock department is the best one for that.

Question: Would it be possible to adopt it in the horse class for a small fair?

Mr. Richardson: You would have to work out your own scale; in a place like Okotoks the horse class would offer the greatest competition, whereas at Lacombe the cattle class would be the largest. Get down to what you think you can afford to pay and work it out using the entries of your last fair as a basis.

Question: There has been a good deal of talk about poultry classes and swine classes; could you work it out on that?

Mr. Richardson: I think the poultry department would be the most suitable to try it out on. I would not like everyone to start in using it, for I feel that if it is not carefully used there will be objections raised to the system that do not belong to the system itself but really to the way it was carried out.

Question: I have known some cases where there were ten or twelve exhibitors and only two prizes; that is not fair at all.

Mr. Richardson: At our last fat stock show we had twenty-four entries in sheep, and four prizes. That was small encouragement for the other twenty.

Question: I see when you say that you are going to give a certain amount of prize money you definitely give that money away as prize money?

Mr. Richardson: Absolutely.

Mr. J. G. Clark: I suppose if you do not wish us to take any other action it is only due to Mr. Richardson that we should tender him a very hearty vote of thanks. (Applause).

The President, Mr. Richardson, returned thanks for the expression of appreciation and made the announcement concerning the evening session after which the meeting adjourned.

WEDNESDAY EVENING SESSION

The meeting was called to order by the President at eight o'clock on Wednesday evening, March 1st, 1916.

The Chairman:

I have just received a letter from His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Brett regretting very much that he would be unable to come to-night to act as Chairman. He has had two very busy days and is not very well to-night so he asked if the Convention would kindly excuse him from attending this evening.

ADDRESS BY DEPUTY MAYOR FRITH

We are glad to have with us to-night Mr. Frith, Acting-Mayor of the City of Edmonton. We shall be very pleased indeed to have a few words from Mr. Frith.

Mr. Frith:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: In the absence of His Worship Mayor Henry I have been asked to appear here to-night to give you a very cordial welcome to the City of Edmonton and to express the hope that your stay here will be most enjoyable. I cannot say, as a great many city men can in this day and generation, that I was born on a farm. I was unfortunate enough to be born in a city, but I believe the tendency of the day is for city and rural people to draw closer together. The old idea that there was some difference between urban and rural population is fast being dissipated, and it is largely due to the fact, I think, that agricultural fairs draw the people from the country to the cities, and by mingling together and by closer associations they become personally acquainted, and in doing so they come to a better understanding of the true relation between those living in the cities or towns and those living in the country on the farms. As a matter of fact, we are inter-dependent upon each other. I suppose the farmer cannot do without the city man, but I am sure the city man cannot do without the farmer; he must have someone to produce supplies for him, and, as a matter of fact, city men are only incidental to the farmer in order to facilitate business. The tendency of this day is unquestionably to make farming a more scientific occupation than it has been in the past. Not being a scientist in any sense of the word, but just an ordinary business man, I cannot say anything to you along those lines, but I do believe this, that it is just as necessary to develop the business end of farming as the scientific end. After all, I think we must agree that the results attained are the end for which every man seeks and it is absolutely necessary to everyone to show profit at the end of the year for his year's work. In order to do so he must follow good business methods, and whether you call it scientific or otherwise everyone must agree upon that one point that your credits must exceed your debits at the end of the year if you are to consider that year a successful one.

I am very glad to be able to say to you that the Dominion Government has consented to grant a very considerable sum towards the stock show which will be held here in the early part of April and which will help considerably toward making that the success which we all wish it to be. Under Mr. Stark our shows here of whatever nature usually are exceedingly successful, and I am quite certain that the one we will have here in April will be quite as successful as any we have had in the past.

It is also a matter of congratulation, I think, that the departments of agriculture both at Ottawa and in our various provinces are co-operating more to-day than they ever have done before. Agriculture throughout the Dominion is all the same, and these departments should act in co-operation, as it is possible for them to do. The Department of Agriculture in the Province has always ranked in its proper place. I do not suppose that any one considers that second to any other department in this Province; but at

Ottawa I regret to say the Department of Agriculture has not taken the place it should have taken amongst the different portfolios there held by the several ministers. However, under the able administration of the present Minister of Agriculture we will all agree I think that that Department is assuming a truer proportion than it has in the past to the other Departments. We have been too much inclined to size up the Departments at Ottawa according to their spending capacities. We have heard the expression "The great spending Departments" used too often. The Agricultural Department is the great producing Department, and in the future, and I hope the very near future, it will be recognized by everyone in Canada, if not the most important, at least equally important to any other Department at Ottawa.

I am not expected to make a speech to you to-night, which is rather fortunate for you, and I regret to say I am not able to stay and listen to the addresses which you will hear, which will not only be interesting, I am sure, but also instructive, but before leaving you I again wish to extend to you our most cordial welcome to this City and to give you in so far as it is in my power to do so the freedom of the City. I hope that you will all enjoy your stay here and that as many of you as possible will come back and visit us in April, and that all of you will try and come when we hold our next Annual Fair in July. It gives us great pleasure to have you here with us, and we hope that your visit will be as pleasant as I am sure it will be profitable.

ADDRESS BY PROFESSOR HOWES

The Chairman:

We are very glad to have the welcome of the City of Edmonton extended by Mr. Frith. We will now call upon Professor Howes, Dean of Alberta Agricultural College, who will address you on "Agricultural Education in Canada."

Professor E. A. Howes:

Mr. President and Gentlemen: It affords me no small degree of pleasure to have this opportunity of speaking to the members of this Association this evening. One has to make these little conventional remarks at the beginning: they sound conventional, but I think most of us mean just exactly what we say.

As Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and as one associated with agricultural education for some years past and one who hopes to be allowed to continue in that work for the space that is allotted to him, it becomes my duty, as it is always a pleasure, to speak on the subject of agricultural education whenever and wherever I can secure an audience sufficiently complacent to listen to me. One regret I have, and I had better put myself right with you at the beginning by the following illustration. There are a few in this audience who have not heard me tell this story before, so for the sake of them I will give the illustration. The old philosopher, my old countryman Dooley, has classified public speakers in this way: He said, "The man who has something to say and not just the words to say it with may get along fairly well; the man who has something to say and all the words necessary to say it with, makes a great speech; and the man who has nothing to say and a torrent of words to say it with, is an orator." Now I do not wish to be an orator; I know I shall never make a great speech no matter how long I live; but with your kind attention I may be classified as one who may get along fairly well. I was asked to give this little talk on agriculture and have given it on two or three occasions before, and if there are some here who have heard me I am willing to be forgiven for repeating it.

In speaking of agricultural education in a province young like ours, I like to consider that we are distinctly under pioneer conditions. Now I know there are men who are interested in real estate and so forth; they do not wish this country to be considered in the pioneer class. However, there are advantages as well as disadvantages. For instance, we are not tied down by old precedents, we are not hampered by old customs, as they are in older provinces and states, and if we maintain a fairly modest spirit and if we are willing to profit by the success and failures of other provinces and

states, we may in a very short time build up a system of education, agricultural or otherwise, that it has taken the older provinces and states many years to build up. I would like to lay before you in a simple way this evening some of the things that are being done for agriculture in this Province. Before referring to Alberta directly, I may say that I would like to take as an illustration an older province, the Province of Ontario. I need offer no excuse for speaking of the old Province of Ontario: I came from there myself, and quite a few other good men came from there. (Laughter). So then if I speak in a constructive spirit but in a critical way of certain things that happen there I know I shall not be mistaken. We in Ontario for a very long time seemed to have resolved ourselves into a sort of mutual admiration society in regard to our educational system; we, figuratively speaking, prided ourselves that we had the best educational system in the world—I believe we had been told that at one time—and we did not seek for much improvement. Now a certain amount of self-conceit is good for any of us, but too much self-conceit is apt to end in stagnation and a sort of dry-rot. Just the same, things were going on under the surface in Ontario, and I well remember the very first manifestation in the province that they were contemplating such a thing as agriculture or nature study. I taught school for some years in Ontario and they made me president of the Carleton County Teachers' Association. I was presiding at the Teachers' Convention once, and one hot afternoon on the second day of the convention when there was a period open for questions to be asked, there was a gentleman in the back of the hall stood up and said, "Mr. President, I would like to ask anyone present if he can tell me just what the presence of dormant buds means." I may explain that that year the caterpillars had swept the leaves from the trees and a second growth had come out, and he wanted to know just exactly how dormant buds worked. Every teacher in that crowd turned their heads and took a look at him, they thought there was something wrong with him. I have often thought since that he was making history, and that he was surrounded by a bunch of dormant buds at that time. Perhaps some of us never wakened up afterwards, I don't know. (Laughter). That was the beginning of nature study and agricultural education, as far as it comes within my ken, and I am not quite so old as you might suppose. Agricultural education as represented in Ontario, or its advent, marked a sort of milestone or turning point in the work. Up to that time we were tied down by the survival of an old ideal. It was stated that very same year in an article written that twenty-two per cent. of the children in Ontario passed into the high schools, and that four per cent. of that twenty-two per cent. passed from the high schools into the university.

Yet we boasted that our system of education was like a series of steps reaching from primary up to graduation, founded upon the needs of less than one per cent. of the children. Our educational system was formed and founded on the survival of an old ideal, that we must push the rights or chances of the minority—and I am not saying a word against that by any means—but we were forgetting the rights of the vast majority. Now in a short time the old Province of Ontario has gone away ahead in the matter of agricultural education, and it is no reflection on Ontario if I say that Alberta being willing to profit by the mistakes and successes of Ontario can very well start in where Ontario is at the present time.

I like to discuss agricultural education under several heads, but I would like to speak first of agricultural education in the public schools. We have a splendid course of agriculture in the public schools here. You may call it nature study in the first six grades, and agriculture in the seventh and eighth grades, if you wish. Call it what you like, we have a good course here, but that is not enough; the department has had a book printed to aid the teachers in the teaching of agriculture, particularly in the seventh and eighth grades. Many of you have seen this book; it hardly needs any commendation from me; as far as the English, the illustrations, the arrangement is concerned I think the book stands in a class by itself. But, a book is not enough, the teachers require some special training, and we have at the University of Alberta each year, under the auspices of the Department of Education, a summer school for teachers. Perhaps some of the teachers from your districts have been coming to the summer school. We are giving

them a theoretical and practical course in agriculture. I would like to bear tribute to the calibre of the teachers. We began with 78 teachers; the next year we had 155, including inspectors; last year we had 327 including 44 high school teachers. Those high school teachers deserve special mention also; particularly good work has been done by them.

I know it is scarcely necessary for me to offer any excuse for the introduction of agricultural education in the public school, that is, in this meeting; but there are many in the province even yet who want to know just why agriculture should be put on the public school curriculum, and because of that I would like to offer a couple of reasons. Most of our teachers are girls, and the criticism is: they say, "What can a girl teach of agriculture in the short time that is at her disposal?" My answer to it is this:—The lady teachers tell me when they go out and try to introduce the school garden, nature study and the idea of elementary agriculture, there is always some one in the section—sometimes more than one—who will make the original remark: "I believe you are going to try to teach us agriculture," that is by way of encouragement. I tell the teachers that they are not there to teach adults, they are there to teach the children; and to just let the old folks understand they are more or less past redemption, that the teacher's duty is towards the children, and it is to them they are going to devote most of their effort. Besides that, I hold it is not the amount of agricultural facts that are taught that counts, it is the bent of mind that is induced in the pupil. There seems to be a misconception in regard to education of any kind, many seem to think it is a certain amount of facts that you slap on like mortar in the hope that some will stick. (Laughter). It is the kind of pupil or student that we turn out that counts, and if you give such the right bent of mind in the public school, that bent toward agriculture, I guarantee that when the child is older he is not going to depart from it. There is another reason why agriculture should begin in the public school: because there is the logical place to begin education of any kind. You remember the old teachers, the Jesuits; you know what they said, "Give us the children up to a certain age, and we care not who has them afterwards." That was fundamentally sound; they knew what they were talking about. If we take children at that particular age we can do something with them, we get them thinking in a particular line and they never depart from it.

One other reason, and a very good one; we are apt to deplore and we do deplore the abnormal drift of young people from the country to the city. That may not be as true of Alberta as of other places, but it is true nevertheless. People have figures to prove that. I could not remember the figures, but it is a fact. In an agricultural province like this there is too much of that tendency. What are the reasons for it, what can we do to check it? I tell you, gentlemen, this is an old question, it does not begin here in Alberta, it does not begin in Canada, or even America. I was interested the other day in reading Cato. He was deploring the drift of the young people from the country to the City of Rome, and he said, "They are forsaking the vineyards and olive groves for the circus and theatre." And what happened? Rome was making great conquests, and they were having a vast revenue, and they said, "Come into the city and we will give you a good time as long as you keep us in office." The people came in; and just as those people left the country and flocked into the city, so the Roman Empire decayed, and it is about correct to say that is what caused the downfall. We may not fall because of the drift of the present time, but it is certain we will fall short of what the people have a right to expect of us in the Province of Alberta if we do not keep the boys and girls on the farm. Let me say a word or two about this. Some of you perhaps heard me speak two or three years ago, the first speech I attempted to give in Alberta. I was pleading for holding the bright boys and girls on the farm, and a gentleman got up afterwards when I had no opportunity for reply—I need hardly say he did not come from the country—he said I had no business to come there and ask for the bright boys and girls to be held on the farm. He said in an oratorical sort of way: "Where would our lawyers and doctors be? Yes, where would our preachers come from? I for one would not want to see the ranks of the preachers replenished from the ranks

of ministers' sons." I imagine he is wondering yet why everybody laughed. (Laughter). My reply to that would have been, "You are putting up a straw man for the sake of knocking him down. I was not speaking of the very small minority, the very very small number who feel they have a call to be a lawyer or doctor or preacher, we are not finding fault there, I was speaking of the great army who leave the country and come to the city, the vast majority, the men who wear red neck-ties. When they get there they are submerged and lost; they never come back. Oh, yes, they do sometimes, when they are starved back. That has happened this last year,—something like the prodigal son; he will return if he finds that the diet of husks is too much for him; he may come back to see what the chances are for the fatted calf." Never mind about those who have gone, let us try some way of holding those who are yet with us.

I have been asked to speak on this particular point, and I consider it something in this way: There are two sets of forces taking the boys away, there is a set of pulling forces and a set of pushing forces. The pulling forces are more or less beyond our control—I refer to the lure of the city, the bright lights if you will, the amusements and the hundred and one other attractions that pull the boys and girls away from the farm. I took this up with some of our students at the University the other night and asked them for reasons, some of those pulling reasons;—one boy mentioned, well, the theatre, another mentioned athletic sports, another one mentioned other little amusements, another one said "They get bigger pay," one of them said, "They have their rest, they have more comforts," and in fact he went so far as to say that they could get a bath in the city when they wanted it. I said, "I am willing to take your opinion but boys must have changed since my time if that is taking the boys from the farm." (Laughter). However, we have these pulling forces, and they are beyond our control, but the pushing forces we have largely within our direction, or control, and just a for a minute or two I would like to mention some of them, I have not time to discuss them at any great length. The first one I would like to mention is the question of labor. I spoke the other day at a meeting about the middle of this Province—I do not want to become too specific in stating these things—and I said that the hours of labor were very often too long on the farm and I maintain it still. I know that I need scarcely put up a plea for regular hours of labor, the men who are listening to me to-night are the men who quite agree with that; it has been proven that the farmers who have regular hours of labor not only for their boys, and for themselves, but for the hired men, get along just as well and sometimes a little better. There is more contentment and peace of mind, and it is better for the boy. I am speaking of the abnormally long hours. I know that the boy does not object to the labor if the hours are reasonable, but there is a more important factor than the length of the hours, there is the matter of interest in the work. No boy objects to work even if hard, and it is hard on the farm many times, if that work is interesting. I therefore make one little suggestion—supposing the boy is given a sort of partnership, not a nominal one but a partnership in livestock or the grain on the farm or something along that line, he is going to feel a good deal more interest. There will be no trouble in interesting him, particularly if there is good livestock, particularly if you are raising good crops, and particularly if he knows the why. I am saying something that you know already when I state this—that a boy will go through the hard labor of the farm if he knows the why and feels a personal interest in it. There is that old saying about Johnnie's pig and Daddy's bacon, but I think that very idea has disgusted many boys with the farm, not exactly disgusted but just given them a distaste. When I was a boy we kept Leicester sheep, and they were pretty good Leicester sheep too, and I was to have a certain percentage of the profits for looking after them. I took care of those sheep and looked after them well. We did not get much for sheep in those days, even the well-bred ones, but I had laid by a certain amount of money. There was a certain thing I wanted to buy and it had to be bought in Montreal and I was waiting till somebody went down there to buy it. For some reason nobody went and I had my money on hand in the spring. I was going to keep it over till the summer time. Well, the summer-time came along and they found that the old Buckeye

mower needed new sections, and we had used up the last payment from the cheese factory and it was suggested I lend that money. I did lend that money and I have never seen it since. I have no use for Leicester sheep. (Laughter). We are now laughing over this, but doesn't that point to a moral? They intended to pay me back, I was a sensitive sort of chap, times were pretty hard on the old stony farm, I didn't have the heart to speak about it, but I did not get that thing that I was laying up the money for.

Then there is the question of recreation. The farmers I think forget too often they were young themselves. It is too bad that any of us get old, but it is a fact that farmers forget about that sort of thing, and I would just like to make a few suggestions for recreation for the boy. I know he will work hard if it is not drudgery, but just the same he ought to have diversion of some kind. Let me mention athletics first. Is there any place where boys will show more interest in athletics than right in the country? Is there any place they will travel farther to kick an old soggy football around? It is just a few years since you went off to play baseball or football, and next morning you did not get up quite so early, and they told you that if you showed as much energy with your work as you did kicking that football you would make a crackerjack of a farmer. I do not know any place where organized physical training would be more welcome and more in place than right in the country. We are apt to think that the country boys are so very much stronger than the city boys, and so they are in some ways. I remember when I was a boy we always thought that a country boy was able to handle four or five of what we call "city bugs," is that it? (A voice: "Counter-jumpers"). Now we had that idea, and it was a very good idea to have, but I want to tell you that very many of the town boys at the present day through their taking courses of physical training at the Y.M.C.A. are physically more fit than we think they are. The boys on the farm develop only certain sets of muscles, and it is a good thing to exercise the other muscles. If they want to box, play football or have a wrestling match, do not hold them back.

I would like also to speak about social life. Is there any place where they enjoy the social meeting better than they do in the country? I have been at U.F.A. meetings where they combined business and pleasure. I have gone to many of those meetings no doubt as some of you have gone. I was a little dismayed on the first occasion to find I was to speak for a certain length of time and then they were to have a luncheon and dance. Naturally I jumped to the conclusion that those people were going to hit me if I took beyond five or ten minutes. However, I want to say that there has not been a meeting where I did not receive a perfectly good hearing. Speaking of dancing: Did you ever see people who could enjoy themselves better under that form of recreation? Oh, yes, you may laugh at the dance if you wish, but I very often tell the people, when talking to them in the towns especially, "When you can show me that the acrobatic monstrosities of the dance of the present day have anything on the rural quadrille, then you have a chance to smile." (Laughter).

Then there is the question of reading. I wonder how many of us read a good deal? I have been trying to find out through the teachers and by talking to the boys at their schools of agriculture, and other schools, as to how much they read. I find at home they are taking agricultural papers, that they are taking the local paper possibly, they are taking a daily paper of one particular type or other, anyway they are taking a paper, but that is about all. Reading is a habit that can be developed when the child is young, and I would just like to take a minute or two to put in a plea for reading. Do not be too particular about the reading. I am going to make a statement to-night that is perhaps extreme, but I think you will not misunderstand me. I knew a good gentleman, he was a particularly good living man, a man who took interest in temperance work and that sort of thing. He had one boy, and he said, "I do not know what to do about my boy, I am disheartened. We have reasoned and talked with him but to no good; his mother found a Nick Carter story under his bed the other morning." The man was nearly heart broken. "Well," I said, "if I told you of a remedy you would not perhaps put it into practice. Take five dollars and buy a whole bunch of

yellow-backed stories and put them with the family album and let him go ahead and read them if he wishes. I do not think he will want to bother himself long with that kind of stuff." At home we had very little chance to read. We had Bunyan's "Holy War" and we had one or two histories—oh, there was an agricultural book that was sent around, I will not go into details about that. I well remember one time visiting a place where they had a little library. We had been out playing and came in the house and were standing round the stove talking. They had a set of Scott's works. I picked out a book and it was "Rob Roy," and the very place I opened the book was where Helen MacGregor was drowning the poor unfortunate Morris in the Highland Loch. It was not a very elevating part of the story, but it fixed my interest, and I stayed with that book that afternoon. They let me take it home, and when I finished it I was allowed to take it back and get another of Scott's in the place of it. I cherish the memory of that. If you have boys you should encourage their reading. Then there is the matter of the literary societies, which may be held in connection with your agricultural organization; they are not going to conflict in any way, I beg to assure you.

Another pushing force that takes the boy away from the farm is his ambition. You may say that is not a very good argument. Well, it is not on the face of it, but I would like to explain myself. Here is ambition pushing the bright boy away from the farm. The bright boy must have that feeling of ambition, and if it is not directed along healthy lines it is going to find a direction of its own. The boy has seen in cartoon and in print pictures and words speaking in a slighting way of farmers and farming. If I had time I would give you a picture as generally portrayed about the conventional farmer. We do not care about that, we look at it and smile; but it is to a certain extent true to the boy, and the boy gets the feeling that the profession of his father has not just the standing that it might have, and that he will have to leave the farm if he is going to get up in the world. He has that feeling, and I want to lay this much at the door of the public schools and high schools, not of Alberta, not of any place in particular, not nearly so much of the present as of the past, that agriculture never had a place in the public school. Why should a boy think with respect towards it when he was taught all other kinds of subjects and the profession of his father and mother was never spoken of? Quite unconsciously he formed the idea that education and agriculture had nothing in common, and to rise, as I say, he had to leave the farm. That is one of the pushing forces. Thank Goodness our schools of Alberta are doing their best to fight down that influence, and I think they are doing good work.

I have dealt largely to-night with the public schools, and the same is true to a large extent of the high schools. I might just take a minute to speak of the high schools. If agriculture is important in the public school it is doubly important in the high school. Not only is it necessary that agricultural education should have its place in the high school because of the importance of the industry of farming, but this is the point I would like to emphasize: Our teachers go through a normal school under town conditions, but as soon as they are through where do they start to teach? Not in the town; oh, no, they go away out to the rural districts to teach. We often laugh at the mistakes the school m'ams make when they go out to the country. I believe the following happened in the southern part of the Province: It is said that two young men came from the East and took up farms down there, and later on married two young girls from the East—I believe that has been a habit in Alberta—and one morning one of the young men went over to his neighbor's to borrow a bushel and a half of wheat to finish out seeding the piece of ground he had prepared. His neighbor was away, and the wife took a peck measure while he held out the sack and measured out five and tossed the measure back. "Well," he said, "I want another peck measure to make up the bushel and a half." Then she counted up, "one, two, three, four." "Well," she said, "Isn't that foolish of me, but before I married Jack I never did anything but teach school." (Laughter). As a public school pupil and as a high school pupil and later on as a teacher, she was familiar with the jingle, "two pints one quart, four quarts one gallon, etc.," it was only a jingle represented on a

page in a book, it had no application to anything practical. This story may be true or not, but it does not matter, there is a certain point to it.

I was asked to make some suggestions. I am pleased indeed to know that many of the suggestions that were offered last year have been acted upon, and I am not going into detail but would like to suggest this, that you in your local fairs meet in so far as you are able the requests of your local teachers for help in offering prizes and in certain little competitions. I have spoken about that at two or three meetings of the executives of fairs. At one place I remember I was told, "Yes, that is a pretty good thing and probably in about two years' time we will be able to handle that, but now we must attend to the things that are more important." Now there is nothing so important to you and those who come after you as that of fostering the agricultural spirit in the schools. As an exhibitor I think I exhibited, or my school did, at Guelph for four years, and I would just like to advise you from my experience there. The first thing that suggests itself is this: while you give prizes for exhibits at the fair the children will bring the stuff there and it will fill up the building and make a show, but my experience has been you will get into difficulty. In nearly every community there is someone who has specialized in gardening, and he is going to turn out just a little better stuff than the rest, and the rest are going to be dissatisfied. Your experience will be different from mine if you do not hear about a boy getting a prize and not doing any of the work at all; his father, older brother, uncle or somebody else doing it. I have also heard it charged that a certain exhibit was not raised on that farm at all. I would like to suggest this:—in place of your offering prizes in competition between individuals, offer prizes in competition between schools. Put the responsibility up to the teacher; then you have just that teacher to deal with, then I think you will not have such criticism to combat. Now there are certain things you might have as individual exhibits. There are collections of insects and weeds and so on, that may be exhibited individually, and you will not run into any great trouble in that direction. Then you may foster little competitions such as potato growing, certain kinds of grain growing, and instead of giving elaborate prizes—that is not required—perhaps you could furnish the seed or you could give something towards getting the seed. I have to deal with teachers in the summer school here, and I would like to be able to tell them, "Go to the executive of your local fair and ask them to help you in your school garden work." You could offer prizes for school gardens. The school garden is a particularly strong factor in fostering the idea of agriculture and nature study in the schools. Then too, some of the fairs are giving prizes for athletic competitions.

I have read with very much pleasure the report of the speech given to you by the Deputy Minister of Agriculture at your Fair a year ago. He has given you in detail concrete suggestions much better than I can give you at the present time, or at any time for that matter. You could go over that again carefully and see what is suggested there. There are suggestions there that you could modify to suit your particular needs this year.

I want to thank you for your very patient attention. I would like at some future time to have the opportunity of speaking on advanced agricultural education as represented in our schools of agriculture and faculty of agriculture at the University. I wanted to-night to deal with the public and high school because there is a way you can help perhaps more than you think. And I am going to leave this statement with you; if any teachers come around, bothering you to give prizes for school exhibits, and that sort of thing, you will be perfectly right if you say, "That chap up at Edmonton is to blame for this," because I am going to put them after you. (Applause).

ADDRESS BY PROFESSOR REYNOLDS

The Chairman:

We are very grateful to Professor Howes for his very interesting and instructive address. It has always seemed to me if we could find out from the boys who have left the farms and gone to the City really why they have gone that we would have a very large majority answer to the effect that it was because the time never came when they owned anything on the farm

or got anything for their work, and I presume a good many of them would far sooner start in to get a dollar and a half a week or say fifty cents a week more than their board would cost and have something at the end of the week than continue to work on the farm and never reach the time when something would be theirs, so I think that that remark of Professor Howes touches the reason for so many boys leaving the farm. We are more than ordinarily fortunate in having with us to-night the President of the Manitoba Agricultural College. Dr. Reynolds has come all the way from Winnipeg to address us, and I am sure that his address will be most interesting and instructive. I will now call on Dr. Reynolds.

Professor J. B. Reynolds:

Mr. President and Gentlemen: I do not know why my friend Mr. Howes should put me in wrong with you by that allusion to the wearing of the red tie. (Laughter). I must confess that I was brought up on the farm, and that I went back. If the wearing of the red tie is any indication of that, I must plead guilty. But I wear a red tie because if I try any other color my wife complains that it does not suit my complexion. There are just three colors that I can safely wear, a red, a white or a blue. It is a fairly good British combination, and I have just as much right to affect that as my friend from the Emerald Isle has to wear a green tie. (Laughter). Mr. Howes also whispered to me when he sat down that I might inform you that I taught him English, which he said would explain why he did not speak any better. (Laughter). Well, there is one thing I did try to insist on with our boys at Guelph and that was that they should not try to be orators. We distinctly discouraged that, because unless a man is really an orator by nature and by gift it is a painful infliction on any audience to practise or attempt to practise it. We always said to them, "don't try any highfalutin stuff, we want you to talk sense. Begin by talking sense, and continue talking sense, and if you can do that you will generally get people who will listen to you." I have had a good many of those boys who are now men, who were in fact men then, pass through my hands. We had quite a gathering in the dining-room to-night; I think there were seven or eight of the old Guelph boys, who are here in the West doing their bit for advanced agriculture.

I am not sure what particular topic is announced for me, Mr. President, but I am going to talk to you in a sort of discursive way about what appears to me some of our Western problems, and I want to point out to you—what you know of course but because we might be on a common ground of understanding—the fact that agricultural science has been talked about, taught and preached for some thirty years now in Canada. I am not going to make any apology for using that word "science" and that phrase "agricultural science" in this audience. There was a time, possibly not here, but there was a time in Ontario when there was a great deal of distrust of that phrase "agricultural science," as though science were one thing, a thing of the books and a thing of schools, and farming were another thing, and the two could very seldom if ever be brought into harmony, and the book farmer and the scientific farmer were ridiculed and were supposed to be on the rapid road to failure. Now that day in Ontario and Eastern Canada has pretty well passed. Possibly you never went through that phase of distrust here in Western Canada, but I want you now to accept the phrase as I mean it, viz.: agricultural science, a knowledge of things agricultural. It may be knowledge in the mind of the plain, every-day, experienced farmer, or it may be knowledge in the mind of a teacher who is not in daily contact with the real problems of farming, but wherever it is we have succeeded I think in those thirty years in some measure in bringing science and practice into harmony, but in nothing like the measure that we hoped, and in nothing like the measure we expect we shall be able to do in the years to come. I think we have come to the point now where farmers throughout Canada are willing to accept what the colleges will give out for its face value, at par, and we have been fighting for that pretty nearly all this time, to be accepted at par. You will pardon me if I refer to conditions in the East and if I refrain from pretending to any extensive knowledge of conditions in the West, because I have been in the West only since the first week in October,

and while I had read a good deal about Western farming and had studied a good deal about Western farming in one way and another, still it had been in that way largely with me a matter of imagination, not of actual seeing, much less actual practice. I know something about conditions of farming in the East both in the science of it and the practice of it, and therefore what I have to say applies more particularly I must admit to Eastern conditions, and yet I hope will apply to Western conditions too. But this is true, at least of the East, that there is still a wide discrepancy between the science of agriculture as it is known by many and the practice or the art of agriculture as it is practised by many more. That is what I want you to fix your mind on for a few minutes, that discrepancy, admitted discrepancy, between the best that is known about agricultural science and the average practice of agriculture throughout Canada, and it is that discrepancy which we—when I say we I mean the colleges in Canada, I mean more than the colleges in Canada, I mean you also, the leading progressive farmers of Alberta—it is that discrepancy which we want to eliminate, so that the best teaching that is put out from the schools and colleges is put into practice on the average farm in Canada. When we arrive at that condition, so that a man is doing the best that he knows, or that he may know, then we shall have arrived indeed at a situation which is vastly different from the present. There is our problem, gentlemen, the problem of the agricultural colleges, but it is not only our problem. I am free to confess that as agricultural colleges we have failed in the solution of that problem, namely, to reach the indifferent farmer. I confess it now, because I am here to invite your co-operation. What the colleges for various reasons have failed to do—inevitable reasons largely—in reaching the indifferent farmer, you as practised, experienced, expert farmers can accomplish, at least, with the co-operation of the colleges. There is our problem, there is our programme from now on. Will you accept the responsibility, will you enter into co-operation in order that the average farmer throughout this Canadian West may be elevated upon a higher plane? Now I should like to point out some of those discrepancies. Crop rotation has been understood as a science in Eastern Canada for a generation, but only a few of the best farmers even in Eastern Canada practice it. Methods for eradicating weeds have been told of at farmers' institute meetings quite as long, but Canadian fields are still ablaze with mustard and sow-thistle. Cow testing has been recommended by the Dairy Commissioners' Department at Ottawa, and by the agricultural colleges, long enough and often enough for every farmer to know the lesson by heart, but how large a proportion of Canadian farmers use the milk scale or the Babcock test? The difference between a four thousand pound cow—and I hope you all know what I mean by a four thousand pound cow—and an eight thousand pound cow is not as one to two, but in net profit more like one to six. Yet most Canadian farmers would rather buy two four thousand pound cows at \$50 each than one eight thousand pound cow at \$100. I know that because I have seen it time and time again at auction sales. You get up past \$75 on one cow that is admitted to be one of the best cows in the yard and you have got it pretty nearly all to yourself, but up to \$50 and \$60 there is brisk competition for any kind of an old skate. That is true in Eastern Canada. As I said, I must confess I have not attended an auction sale in the West. In 1913 the farmers of Western Canada lost \$1,270,000 by shipping their weed seeds to Fort William instead of cleaning the grain at home. 100,000 tons of weed seeds were shipped to that port in that year, and it cost \$650,000 in freight for the weed seeds alone. Sixty-two per cent. of the weed seeds was converted into stock feed, and was worth \$10 a ton. This unthrift exists parallel with the general complaint that farmers are suffering under economic disadvantages, which, it is alleged, make their business unprofitable. The work of the agricultural colleges and experiment stations has failed in securing the highest results in good farming practice. It has failed partly because the teachers and experimenters have been unpractical theorists who knew their laboratories better than they knew the fields. I confess that that is partly the reason, but I want to say that while that has been a charge against agricultural colleges and agricultural professors in the past it is becoming less and less true, and the colleges are now seeking out men who are not only expert in their laboratories but also expert in their knowledge of farm practice, and it is in the union of these two kinds of

knowledge that success is being attained. I think there is less and less reason for the charge that agricultural college men are impractical theorists. It has failed partly because farmers have persisted in crying out against "theory" and "science" and "book farming." It has failed largely because of the inertia of the careless and indifferent farmer. And now the problem of the colleges and expert stations of Canada is not so much to discover new things as to get old things put into practice. The problem is how to reach the indifferent farmer; to reach the farmer who is serenely content to farm in the good old way in spite of the fact that he now has to contend, not only against the good old weeds, but also against a great many bad new weeds that require new methods of control; to reach the indifferent farmer who persists in growing the same old crops after the same good old methods regardless of changing soil conditions and changing markets. If by any sort of missionary effort this indifferent farmer—he is not here (laughter), he never comes to a place like this—who never reads agricultural text books or bulletins or farm papers, and who never goes to farmers' meetings, could be reached and quickened and energized into a reading, thinking farmer, up-to-date in his methods, if that could be done the colleges and experiment stations might well cease their investigations for the next ten years and spend all their energies in spreading broadcast the science that has already been learnt. The time has come for farm and college to co-operate, so that not merely here and there but everywhere in this country, so huge and so rich in soil resources, the best science of the colleges is put to the proof practical on the farms of our land. The problem is to reach the indifferent farmer who allows the weeds to grow on his own farm and to spread to his neighbor's farm; who, if he is a grain grower, never thinks of being anything else; who, if he keeps stock, never thinks of improving the breed; who never co-operates with his neighbor for business or social ends; and who, as long as he remains indifferent, is a menace to his community. He is not to be met at the numberless meetings held to promote better farming. He is to be found beside the kitchen stove grumbling at the weather; or leaning over the fence talking to a neighbor of like mind about the failure of the Government to help the farmers; or sitting on the sugar barrel in the country grocery discussing the war situation; or lounging over the hotel bar fortifying his spirit for the long drive home; but he is never to be found in a place like this. In meetings in Eastern Canada, and I have been to hundreds of them, farmers' meetings, always our experience is to find the same men at the same meetings, the experience of the directors of agricultural societies and farmers' institutes, and the indifferent farmer, the poor farmer, is at home, or on the street, or in the hotel of the same town, but he can never be got out to those meetings. There is our problem, to waken him up, to quicken his brain—he works hard enough when he does work—but to waken him up, to give him some kind of intellectual curiosity in the higher agriculture. And it is more your concern really; it will benefit you more, affect your lives more and your well-being more than even it does ours as colleges. And, therefore, we invite your co-operation. That is one side of the argument,—unthrift, indifference, the unprogressiveness, the deadness to new ideas, the inertia of one sort of farmer. Peradventure ten righteous men, yea, more than ten, may be found for whose sake the country shall be saved. And here are the ten righteous men, and more than ten, and by your efforts and by your moral spirit—because it amounts to that—in making yourselves the centres of newer and better agriculture this country shall be redeemed to a better system of farming. The redemption of Canadian agriculture will depend on increasing the number of the righteous—of the thrifty, intelligent, business-like, skilful and public-spirited farmers, by whose example and precept the gospel of the better agriculture shall be preached on every side lane and every main road. The better farmers, who know the science of agriculture and who practice it, must become missionaries. They, at least, are in daily contact with the men it is most desirable to reach. Can we not have a campaign for the improvement of agriculture by local organization, local influence and local example? When we have cast out the beam that is in our own eye, we may then see clearly how to cast out the mote that is in our brother's eye. When we as a class have done the best possible in the circumstances allotted us we may then consistently begin to make demand for the removal of hindrances, obstacles and disabilities.

That indifference to the adoption of new and admittedly better methods of farming reminds me of a story of a certain farmer's bull that broke bounds one day, got through the fence and on to the railway track. The owner some distance off saw the animal break through the fence, and started on the run to get him back. In the meantime the bull climbed up between the rails and saw a little distance off the train coming. The bull apparently concluded that he was there first and that he would stay there, he would try conclusions with this strange new thing coming down on him, and up went his tail and down went his head and he charged. In a moment or two there was a head-on collision, and the bull naturally was tossed to one side a mangled corpse into the ditch. The train sped by and the farmer arrived upon the scene to find this calamity. He approached the mangled corpse, looked down upon it, gave it a kick, and said, "Well, I admire your pluck, but damn your judgment." (Laughter). Now we have farmers down East who continue farming in the same old way, they say, their fathers did well on that and they are going to try out the same thing, they see no reason for changing; but when I see those farmers, and there are many of them down East yet, I am reminded of that bull. They apparently have pluck, and they go on trying year after year against disheartening results, but I have not very much confidence in their judgment. And so it is with farming everywhere, gentlemen, we have to be awake to changing conditions—changing conditions of soil, changing conditions of market, and this is part of agricultural science.

I am free to admit, further, that the agricultural colleges have failed in the matter of their teaching because they have perhaps too much emphasized the mere question of production in agricultural science. They have been teaching "Produce more, produce more, get more off the land per acre," whereas they have failed until quite recently to realize that there was any other side to agricultural science. Now we are beginning dimly to see that there is another side to agricultural science, that a farmer may be eminently skilful as a producer and yet fail of the highest success because he has failed to adopt business methods. He remains a producer. He is an excellent tiller of the soil, he is an excellent breeder of stock, but as times change—and times do change—as markets change and other conditions change he fails to change with them, he does not keep his eyes open to those vicissitudes, those changing circumstances, and so he is left behind. That is true, of course, not only in farming, but in every line of business, and no man can keep up with the times and remain successful unless he applies the changing methods. For instance, in our town there is a very highly respected brewer—I do not know how much longer in this country of ours brewers will remain respected—but he has been and is, for his personal character, highly respected. He is a public-spirited man, he has been mayor of the town two or three times, and was wealthy, built a large plant there and a splendid house. But he fell behind the times; new methods of brewing arose—I do not know anything about them, I cannot tell you anything about that—but he fell behind, he stuck to the old fashions, the old methods of manufacture, with the result that he failed. So farmers are not the only ones who fail, but they do fail, that is, they fail of the highest success because of this inability to meet the new conditions. The agricultural colleges are just awakening to the fact that there is such a thing in the science of farming as the business of farming. We are trying to meet that at Winnipeg, and have appointed a teacher who is called the professor of farm management, which includes all that may be understood by the business of farming. Cost accounting,—it is not enough to know that we produce twenty, thirty, forty bushels of grain from an acre of land, but you must know also if your business is to be permanently successful how much it costs to produce that, and the margin of profit that this method of cultivation and this method of farming gives you, and so cost accounting we have come to recognize is a part of the science of farming. Then another thing is the question of marketing, that also has become a subject of study at the agricultural college at Winnipeg; and branching out beyond that what we call by the larger term, rural economics,—finance, marketing, cost accounting; and beyond that to the larger and more inclusive question of rural well-being, sometimes called rural sociology. All that is really a part of

the larger science of farming, and so the colleges are slowly taking those subjects up, because college people are just as conservative as others and just as unwilling to change, and the old methods and subjects of teaching we must confess have been adhered to longer than should have been and we have not adapted ourselves to the demands of new times. But we are gradually wakening up, and now the time has come when the farmer who is trying out these things on his farm, and the professor who is trying out these things in his laboratory or class room, must come together for the redemption of agriculture in Canada and for the uplifting of the average practice of agriculture and for the reaching of that indifferent farmer of whom I have spoken. Better farming, that is part of our business, I have dealt with that; better business on the farm, that is part of our business, I have dealt with that; and now thirdly, and last of all of this trinity of better things, something else which is quite as important as either of the other two, better living. That is the trinity of better things which was announced by Mr. Roosevelt's Country Life Commission some years ago, that was the consummation of their observations, the result of all their enquiry, that the redemption of agriculture rested upon three things—better farming, but not that alone; better business, but not those two alone; with these, better living.

Somebody remarked to me to-day that a certain teacher, a school inspector I think, had criticized the character of the men and women on the farms in this Western country and criticized our agricultural education by saying this, that it was not more education that was wanted in the country, it was less education, that the people were too well educated, that they were so well educated that they were not content with their lot on the farm. Now what do you think of that for an argument, and how shall we deal with it? It may be true and it is true in Eastern Canada that giving education to boys and girls on the farm has undoubtedly made them discontented with their lot on the farm. We have had boys and girls come to us at Guelph and say that they fully intended when they left the farm to go back there, but having had their eyes opened to new possibilities in the world, to new opportunities, to a new kind of social life, they had been awakened to what they began to consider the disabilities of all country life, with the result in many cases that boys who had destined themselves for farming, after taking a year or two at the agricultural college, were lost to agriculture, lost to practical farming, and went on and finished their course and became professional men. Now we confess that result, but what is at fault? Will you admit that as a class you ought not to be educated? Will you admit that there ought to be in this country, this Western country, this democratic country, a peasant class, illiterate, untrained, dumb, accepting blindly and unquestionably any lot which Providence may hand out to them? Or may they be educated? And if they are educated, what then? Therefore the solution lies, and the only solution lies, not in limiting the education, but in directing it wisely first of all, and then in mending, where it needs mending, the lot in which their lives are to be cast. That is our problem. And so we say, better living; better living for the people on the farm; such a living as will be satisfactory to people of good tastes, educated people. There is our problem. To make country life not merely a means of livelihood, but a place of residence, a place to live year after year, desirable for home. The other conditions might do for Russia, they might have done for Europe in the middle ages, but they will not do for Canada in the twentieth century.

We have got to have people rightly educated, and here is where we come to some of the excellent suggestions made by Mr. Howes. People rightly educated will make conditions on the farm satisfactory, not only the conditions of their labor and the result of their labor, but the conditions outside of their labor. It is not so much of the hours of work that we find cause for complaint, because a man who likes his work is not very much disposed to complain about the conditions while he is working, but what we must do in the matter of better living is to make the conditions of living in our hours of leisure more satisfactory. I fancy that the charge might be laid against some of you that you have been, if not selfish, at least thoughtless and inconsiderate for the rights of the others with whom you live and who are dependent upon you, your wives and children, and you have failed in your highest duty

towards them in making any kind of preparation for them to pass satisfactorily their hours of leisure. Well, how many hours of leisure have you? If you follow the up-to-date method of the eight hour day which my friend the Minister of Agriculture for Alberta defines, eight hours in the morning and eight hours in the afternoon, and take two or three hours for eating, you need pretty nearly all the rest of the time for sleep, and there is nothing left for what we call leisure. (A voice: That is the case). Well, if that is the case then good-bye to an educated farming class. You might just as well open your eyes to the fact and acknowledge that if you are content to have that the case your wives and children will not be so content. Speaking for the women of the country districts of Canada—and again I speak for the East as I know what the figures are there—the women have been more discontented and more apt to leave the farm than the men have. And with what result? While the population of Canada throughout shows a majority of women by some tens of thousands and hundreds of thousands, yet I have these figures for the rural districts of Ontario, that in the census of 1910, there were 89,000 fewer women than men in the rural districts of Ontario and that carries with it a terrible lesson, a lesson of inconsiderateness, thoughtlessness and selfishness, varying degrees of disregard of this very important thing, the right of the women on the farm. So that has to be another of your problems, and another part of your business, as farmers who are thinking of the well-being of the community at large, to consider what part the woman is playing, what advantages she has, how much satisfaction she may get out of the conditions with which you have surrounded her. We at the colleges are wrestling with these problems. I want you to see that it is something more than merely a question of production; I want you to see there is something more for you who come to these meetings to put in practice than the few new things you may learn at these meetings and may learn from the books; I want you to see it is a bigger problem than that. It is through you this indifferent farmer may be reached, and through you by your efforts and energies, your consciences and your sacrifices, sacrifices of your bank account if you will, that you may make the life on the farm more satisfactory and more desirable for those who share in your labor and should also share in your joys, the wives and children on your farms. (Applause).

The Chairman:

I feel sure Dr. Reynolds has added very considerably to his list of friends to-night who watch with very much interest his work as President of the Manitoba Agricultural College. We have all felt it a privilege to have heard him to-night, and just once more to show your appreciation I am going to ask you to express it. (Applause)

Dr. Reynolds, I am sure I express the wishes of this meeting in stating that we have listened with a very great deal of interest and appreciation to your splendid address. I thank you very much for coming this distance and for giving us the benefit of your experience.

ADDRESS BY HON. DUNCAN MARSHALL

The President:

The next speaker will need no introduction. We have heard from the Minister of Agriculture on different occasions, but there is one thing that is always true, we are always glad to hear him. We shall be very glad to hear Mr. Marshall again to-night.

Hon. Duncan Marshall:

Mr. President and Gentlemen: This is the second time I have talked to you to-day, and it is the fourth speech I have made, and I am very glad that most of the speaking has already been done to-night and that there is nothing very much left for me to say, except to express my very great pleasure at listening to Mr. Howes and the President of the Manitoba Agricultural College in their splendid addresses, and I think, that we should

congratulate ourselves in Western Canada that we have men at the head of the important agricultural educational institutions in Manitoba and Alberta who take the same practical view of agricultural education that these men do. (Applause). And we have been very glad to have had Mr. Howes preaching this gospel for the last two or three years in the Province of Alberta, and we shall be very glad to have President Reynolds visit us again and preach the same good gospel about the training of boys and girls along the right lines of agriculture in the Province. I just want to say also, Mr. President, that I have always felt very grateful to the agricultural societies. We have had no institution or organization in the Province of Alberta that has co-operated in a more generous fashion with the work of the Department since I have been at its head than the agricultural societies all over this Province; not only have the farmers been members of those societies, but the business men in the different small towns and villages of Alberta have been officers from time to time of the agricultural societies, and have been contributing their time and money toward the successful operations of those societies. They have given us the most generous and hearty support, and we have just concluded in the Province now a series of some thirteen short course schools held in different parts of Alberta, and, considering the character of the weather during the month of January, the success was phenomenal at practically every place where the schools were held, and the success of those schools was largely due to the active personal interest that the members of the agricultural societies took in their promotion and advancement. In every case they were advertised by the society, and every effort was made to get out a large attendance of farmers—and let me tell President Reynolds, who confesses that he is unacquainted with conditions in Western Canada, that those old moss-grown farmers he described who lean over the bar or over the rail fence beside a weedy field or sit on the sugar barrel in the store, do not exist in the Province of Alberta. (Laughter). We have not bred that kind of an animal here yet. This is a new province, and it is settled with pioneers, and this old moss-grown fellow never had energy enough to pull himself up from the roots where he lived and move to Alberta, and the result is we have not had the misfortune to get him here. I want to say there is more in that than a joke, that my experience in dealing with farmers in this province has been that the man who has enterprise enough to move to a new country and has courage enough to go out on the prairies and make for himself, his wife and family, a new home is generally the kind of man who is pretty well alive to learn what he can about the business he is going into. The very fact that this is a new country largely settled by people who have come from other countries and provinces, in many cases with a view to benefitting themselves by getting more land for their boys, means that we have the type of settler who makes an enterprising farmer. He finds new conditions here, and he wakens up very quickly to find out there are a lot of things to learn about farming, and he comes to our meetings, especially to our short course schools, and the thing we try to teach him at the short course schools is not that we can educate him to be a farmer, or not to teach him how to farm, the thing we are trying to teach him at the short course schools is that there is so much to learn about farming that it is going to take him the most of the rest of his lifetime to find it out, and that if he wants to get his boy in ten years to the place where it has taken him twenty-five or thirty to get, then he had better send the boy to one of our schools of agriculture where he will get the kind of training that will save him the trials and sorrows his father has had in order to reap a fair measure of success in farming. If we can do that, viz., interest the men and women who are on the land to send their boys and girls to these schools, we will have accomplished, I believe, the great purpose of the short course schools, and besides, of course, in the discussion on livestock at the schools very many of our farmers pick up ideas and information with regard to the judging and selecting of livestock that is of incalculable value to them.

I have been casting about in the department for some way of improving what we have been doing in the matter of the short course schools, or enlarging our work if I might use the term, and in what is proposed I would like the enthusiastic co-operation—and I believe I will get it—of the agricul-

tural societies. This summer we are going to hold a farmers' week at each of the agricultural schools in the province. We are going to have a week of meetings at the school, and we are going to put on the same kind of lectures and demonstrations that we put on for the boys. We are going to have them long enough and elaborate enough so that a man can learn something. For instance, we are going to put on a series of lectures and demonstrations on gasoline engines and their operation. Now we are not going to teach a man all there is, to know about gasoline engines. I have had a little experience with gasoline engines myself, and I think it would take me about one hundred and sixty-seven years to thoroughly understand one, and consequently we do not expect a man is going to learn all there is to know of one in a few days, but we are going to teach him something about it. A number of farmers have talked to me and said they would like to know something about blacksmithing, not to teach them to be blacksmiths in a week or two, but to have our men give them some hints about how to build a fire for the forge and how to do certain small blacksmithing work they might have to do on the farm. We will put on special classes at these schools in butter making, and we will put on work in the household science department for women along the same line, and if a man or woman is interested in one particular business he or she can spend more time in that class than another. But these classes are not any more than the short course schools are for the purpose of teaching how to farm or teach in full the things we teach in the schools; what we want is to get more farmers and their wives out to these schools to see what we are doing, because I confidently believe that if we can get two or three hundred farmers to the schools of Vermilion, Olds and Claresholm during the present summer, the result will be larger attendance at these schools than ever. This year two of the schools were over-crowded, but we do not care anything about that, we still want more boys, and after a little while we are going to build more schools for those boys, and I want to see them so full we shall have to put about fifty students in each school on the roof, and then we will come back to the Government to ask for money enough to build about three or four more new schools. And I hope within ten years there will not be a boy or girl in this Province that will be further away than fifty miles from a school of agriculture. We are going to do something else this summer. We have two or three demonstration farms, we have one at Stony Plain, one at Sedgewick and one at Athabasca Landing, and we are going to have the teachers hold field meetings in these districts; we are going to give them a team of horses or an automobile and put them at the disposal of the farmers in that locality, and if the farmers want the teacher to come out to their farms to discuss any problems they happen to have he will go out and discuss those problems. Our demonstration farms have only been operating for about three years, and we are just now getting in a position that they can serve the people in the way we intended them to. We had a lot of things to learn on these demonstration farms and we are going to learn a lot more. Farming is learned in two ways, it is learned by the study of the science of agriculture and it is learned by the practice of agriculture, and your science is worth nothing at all if you have not the practice, and that is why we have established these demonstration farms in our province. They are to work out the things we are teaching and preaching in our schools. We are now in a position after three years' experience to serve the people. Many of our experiences have been disappointing, but they all have had a highly educative value. We have had different conditions of climate and rainfall in the different parts of the province where we have been trying to farm, and we have been meeting just the same difficulties as others and have had all the worries of a farm at each of these places, and have solved in many cases the difficulties that farmers have had to meet. We have just now reached the point on some of those farms when we can advise the farmers as to a definite rotation of crops that will be satisfactory in that locality. We have been trying to solve the problem of pasture grasses in many districts where it is difficult to get a good pasture for dairy cows. These are some of the things we have been doing on the farms, and we feel that now we have reached a stage in the development of these farms where we can confidently go out to talk to the farmers about what we have discovered and proved and give them suggestions and advice. We are going to station men on these farms who will

from time to time hold meetings on a Saturday afternoon, when the farmers are in town doing their business, and they can come over to this meeting at a certain hour and discuss the very many questions that are of importance to them in the way of dairying and livestock raising and breeding and so on. Then if they have problems on their own farms, this man will be empowered to drive or motor out to their places; the farmers will then have the benefit of the experience we have gained, and they will be able to discuss with this man intelligently the methods which should be adopted on their farms. We believe in that way we will begin to make the demonstration farms the real help we have always hoped they would eventually be. But we were like everybody else, we were beginning farming when we started the demonstration farms, and we had a lot of things to learn, especially in the newer parts of the province, and we want in this work the co-operation of the agricultural societies, not only where the demonstration farms are situated but all over the province, in inducing the men and women to come to these farms and schools to see what we are doing. We are endeavoring to carry on breeding in an intelligent way, and while we have had some measure—and a reasonable measure—of success in the past, we have been laying the foundation of herds, and you cannot lay the foundation of a herd in a few years, but we think we have reached the point where we can give on our farms a demonstration of what can be done in breeding up the different breeds of cattle within a reasonable length of time by a farmer himself on the farm. We believe that this will be useful, not only for the boys who attend the schools, but for the men who visit our farms, and we hope in the next ten years to work out many of the problems we have in view. Remember this is a new country. We hope in ten years to be able to give a practical demonstration of what the purchase of good bulls placed at the heads of the herds of cattle will do for a man who breeds judiciously; we hope to be not only able to talk to the farmers about breeding cattle but to be able to give them an exhibition of building up first-class herds of cattle on these farms. During the coming summer we hope to accomplish some good results by running excursions to the different schools of agriculture and demonstration farms. Let me thank the agricultural societies in this province for the enthusiastic manner in which they took hold of those excursions last year. Those were the first we had run, and we were a little fearful as to whether they would bring out a sufficient number of people. Like all first ventures we fancied maybe they had not been well enough advertised, but thanks to the co-operation of the agricultural societies, upon whom we depended largely for the advertising, the gatherings were attended by crowds of people which exceeded any expectations we had had. Between three and four hundred people attended our excursions at each of the three schools of agriculture last year, and one of the successful signs of the visit there was that I had fifty men at the different places speak to me and say: "Well, the thing that is the matter with these excursions is that they do not last long enough; what can a fellow do around here in an afternoon? Why don't you have this thing last for two or three days?" I think that is largely perhaps the reason of my determination to have a week at each of the schools of agriculture this year to be called a farmers' week.

I do not know whether any place has yet bid for the annual meeting of the Fairs Association next year. Last year we had a very successful meeting in the school of agriculture at Olds, and I am sure all the delegates who attended were very pleased with what they saw. This year the meeting has been held in a somewhat Northern part of the province, in Edmonton. Next year I should very much like to see the meeting held at the school of agriculture at Claresholm, which is practically in Southern Alberta, and I assure you we shall do the best we can to entertain you. If many of the delegates are here who attended at the Olds school last year, I think they will agree that it was of some advantage to have the meeting at the school, not only for the men who attended the meeting, but it was an encouragement to the boys. It has a good effect upon the boys and girls who are attending one of those schools to see a crowd of men and women who represent the agricultural societies of the province come to a convention of that kind, so if you intend holding the meeting in Southern Alberta I shall be very glad if you could arrange to hold it at the school of agriculture at Claresholm, and I think we can promise to assist you very materially with the programme.

I was intensely interested in both addresses to which we have listened. The question of agricultural education is one that I have been naturally keenly interested in during the last few years, and it was a great comfort to me to have these men who are at the head of what is commonly called higher agricultural education in these two provinces say the things they did, and I feel confident that men who are talking in that practical way will keep before the boys and girls who are going through the agricultural colleges and schools of agriculture the ambition of getting back to the farm and living on the farm and enjoying some of the comforts and pleasures and satisfaction that men get out of farm life. It is just as President Reynolds has said, that we must have our education right, our boys and girls must be brought to understand that life and conditions on the farm can be made even more pleasant and more satisfactory than life and conditions can be made in the city. It is the wrong view-point that so many old-fashioned farmers in the Province of Ontario, from which I came, had of farm life and city life that has sent the boys and girls into the city. They should have the right view presented to them at the public schools. I said at the meeting this morning, and I am going to repeat it here, I went to the public school a long time, it took me a long time to get through the public school, it was largely the fault of the teachers (laughter), and in all the time I attended the public school I never had one single teacher say to me it would be a good thing for me to be a farmer and that it would be a good thing for all the smart boys in the neighborhood to have the ambition to get a piece of land and live on it and be better farmers than their fathers and mothers had ever been. That ambition was never held out at all. I lived in a somewhat new settlement, I was the first boy in our school to pass the entrance examination, so that the education in that particular district could not have been high enough to educate very many of the boys off the farm, but the ambition was always held out to everyone of us that if we would just work and study hard we might pass that thing called the entrance examination, and then we might succeed in becoming teachers at the princely salary of \$300 a year, and if we saved \$200 of that, after a little while, we would be able to go to some university and study law or medicine and get into the professions in the cities and be great fellows. That was the ambition that was held out, and every mother in the country who had a smart boy would urge him to study his lessons so that he might be able to pass the examination and get off to the city. This kind of thing has got into the minds of the boys, that it was an easy and comfortable life in the cities and towns, and also that a man could never be anything or amount to anything, or get anywhere in society, if you please, unless he got off the farm and into one of those cities. The gospel of agriculture, that it required more development of intellect and knowledge and information to be a successful farmer than it did to be any other kind of professional man in the world was never thought of or talked of in our schools, and that is why the boys and girls were soured regarding agriculture in some of the older provinces of Eastern Canada. Let us hope that the work now being done in the public schools in the Province of Alberta will revolutionize this kind of thing. Give the boys and girls who live on the farm the two pictures of the average lad who goes off to live in a town or city, and the boy who stays at home. The former becomes a school teacher and saves a little money or perhaps he gets a job at \$25 a week, and after saving a few dollars he gets married, puts his money into a bit of furniture and rents a house, he gets an increase in salary to \$30 or \$35 a week, then that thing called the high cost of living reaches out and grabs the increase, and no man has ever yet discovered how to reduce his cost of living after it has been increased; he raises his little family and tries to give them an education so that they can go off and fight for themselves; then there comes a lull in business, hard times set in, and he goes home every night and lies awake wondering what in the name of the Lord is going to happen if the boss fires him on account of having to reduce the staff to cut down expenses and is letting out the older men first, and this man worries ten years off his life. The boy back on the farm because he does not know enough about this kind of thing is fretting and chaffing and thinking what a great fellow he would be if he could only go into the city and get \$25 or \$30 a week. Then take the boy who stayed on the farm, who if he gets the right kind of training knows what farming means, what an outlook he has, what comfort, what

real pleasure and joy, he can get out of his business. He gets a little piece of land—and here let us hope it is not a big piece of land; seventy-five per cent. of our farmers have burdened themselves by trying to spread themselves over two or three sections of land. You may have heard the story of the man driving through the State of Kansas with two cows tied behind his wagon, who met another man and told him he wanted to trade one of the cows as part payment for some land. "Well," said the first man, "I will give you a quarter-section for the cow," and the deal was made and the papers drawn up but they had to be taken to a lawyer to have them witnessed. When witnessing them the lawyer looked at them and called the owner of the land to one side and said: "Look here this is not for a quarter-section, this is for a half-section." "Don't say a word," was the reply, "I am putting that other quarter on to him." (Laughter). It would have been a mighty good thing in this province for a good many if they had done that kind of thing. I made the same mistake myself. I have eight hundred acres. I have many times wished I had just bought half a section and settled down to farm on that small amount, because the result is I have too much money tied up in land, and while I have perhaps reached the stage now where I have not any too much land, I believe I would have got to where I am now quicker if I had bought a half section instead of a section and a quarter and had used the extra money in livestock and developing and breaking it, and would have been much farther ahead to-day than I am, if I had bought less. But you take the boy and let him settle down on a piece of land, 160 acres, let him build a modest little house, it need not be an elaborate place at all, get married and start in here to make a home; he has not got a rented place. he has got something that he owns; let him surround it with some of the beauties of nature, so easy to get in the country. On my place I took my two hired men off work for one week last spring and with a couple of teams and scrapers we made a lawn around the house and put up a woven wire fence and planted fifty or sixty trees and a few shrubs—I think I paid a nurseryman \$30, and a few dollars for the woven wire fencing was all the cash I invested, but I changed the look of my place, it is a different looking place to-day as a result of that, and I hope I am going to make it part of our business each year to stop farm work for a week and spend the time cleaning up around the place and keeping it in order. There is not a farmer who cannot do those things on his place, and there is not anything that will pay him better in solid comfort. Now the boy I was speaking about goes on raising cattle, horses, sheep and pigs; he has to work hard when he is young, but when he gets older he will be able to enjoy the benefit of his work, he has no boss but his ambition to succeed. He has absolute security against old age, he has got his home and the greatest chance for enjoyment and pleasure there is in the world. There was something happened in my stable the other day that gave me more real pleasure than is generally crowded into one day. My boys all own something around the place. One of them owns two sheep and a saddle pony, and was in the barn looking at three little calves we had. One calf was only about ten days old and had been a bit sick and off its feed for a day or two. It had recovered but was still not looking very good. It was not a prize animal at all, it really did not amount to very much. I noticed the little boy looking at the calf, and when I came back to where he was he said, "Say, dad, I wish \$3 would buy that calf." I said, "What makes you wish that, why put it at \$3?" "Well," he said, "\$3 is all the money I have got." He bought the calf and handed over the \$3 and I got more pleasure out of watching that boy taking care of that calf than I ever got out of any commercial transaction outside of the farm. My highest ambition—and I am not merely preaching this for other people to practice—is that my boys some of these days shall be among the three best farmers in the Province of Alberta, and I am going to give them the kind of education and training and opportunity to develop a real liking for livestock and for things out in the country, and I hope they will in future years get that pleasure, enjoyment and contentment that a man can get by living near to Nature. This is the kind of gospel we want to preach through every agricultural society in this province of Alberta, this is the thing we want to teach the boys and girls, these opportunities that lie out on the land, that is the occupation for them to follow that it will give them the greatest amount of pleasure and comfort, the greatest amount of enjoy-

ment, and the least amount of worry. This can only be done when we drill into the boys who come to our schools of agriculture and into the men who are on the land to-day that they have got to make conditions surrounding the farm home and farm life of such a character that everyone who lives on the farm will be as glad to live there. That is the thing we have got to do, and that appears to me to be perhaps the most serious problem we have to face to-day. Let me say to the men who are on the farm, if you want to keep your boys there, if you have the ambition to make them good farmers, and if you want to make a success of your farm, it will pay you better to pay a Chinaman \$30 a month to do some of the hard inside work than pay \$30 or \$40 a month for some of the outside work. Build up the home so that men and women living on the farm will feel they are not only the equal, but because of their occupation they are superior of any other citizens in the country; that they have got the calling that offers scope for their ability, for their education and for their knowledge, and that they have got the greatest opportunity of citizenship that is offered to any man or woman. There is nothing that appeals to me so much as the idea that if the men and women got the kind of education they ought to have, we should have on the land the sort of citizenship that will dominate the Government of this country, both Provincial and Dominion. Let the boys and girls be trained to have the right views, to have national aspirations in this Dominion of Canada, and out on these broad prairies build up the kind of citizenship that will elevate this country, the kind of citizenship that will make for the uplift of Canada, and by the co-operation of such men as Dr. Reynolds and Professor Howes, who spoke to you here to-night, at the head of our agricultural educational institutions in Western Canada, I believe the farmers and the men interested in agricultural education can bring this about, and I know of no more effective organization for its propagation than the organization of the agricultural societies represented by you men who have had interest enough in this business to attend this meeting. I thank you and bid you Good Night. (Applause).

The Chairman:

Those of you who have boys growing up will be very glad to hear the remarks of the Minister of Agriculture. I do not think that any convention in our province would know more of the work that Mr. Marshall and the Department of Agriculture are doing for the Province than probably a convention of agricultural society delegates. We see Mr. Marshall at a great many meetings throughout the year.

I know I am expressing the views of this meeting when I say that we are of opinion that in the Province of Alberta the Minister of Agriculture is certainly the most active and hard-working Minister in the Dominion of Canada. I do not think I need say more, but it is certainly a great thing for the Province that we have someone at the head of the Department of Agriculture who is working so hard to place the opportunity for education before our boys in the direction of agriculture.

We have been listening to addresses on education to-night, and it would be very nice for us to have a few words from Mr. Boyle, Minister of Education for the Province.

ADDRESS BY HON. J. R. BOYLE

Hon. Mr. Boyle:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: I had not expected to say anything this evening. I am very pleased at the interest that is being taken throughout this Province of Alberta in rural education. Dean Howes I think outlined to this audience fairly well what the Department of Education is undertaking to do in connection with the teaching of agriculture in our public schools, and improving our public schools generally, both as to our teaching staff and as to our curriculum. I will just take a moment or two of your time to say

here that I believe if you are going to reach the stage where the boys and girls will be contented upon the farm, and if you are going to get the best out of the young men and women who are to grow up on the farm, you will have to stop being satisfied with the one teacher school that you have at present. We have been doing our best to bring that little one-teacher school that you find out in the country up to the highest state of efficiency that is possible, and we are giving it the very best attention, and I think we are commencing to get pretty satisfactory results, but we must remember that those schools are not expected to teach anything more than an elementary education. The boy or girl passing through that ordinary one-teacher school, if they have the good luck to have had pretty good teachers, by the time they are fourteen say, will be able to read and write intelligently and know a little smattering of other things, and will have some knowledge of agriculture, but they will not have the equipment that will either fit them to make successful farmers, or that will have a tendency to make them contented upon the land; and even if they are to be sent to the agricultural schools, the span between the public school course and the agricultural school is too great, and you are not going to get the best kind of results out of an agricultural school course with boys or girls who have nothing but that bare elementary education, and, to my mind, the people upon the farms have to make up their minds that they must put their boys and girls more on a par with respect to educational advantages with the town and city people if they are going to get the kind of results and have the contentment they ought to have. It is as much true of the young women as of the young men, and I think their opportunities are greatly restricted by that very rudimentary education that can be given even by the best teacher in that one-teacher school in the country. I believe that the problem will be solved by consolidation, and when we get established in this country, as I believe we shall, consolidated schools throughout all the better settlements, where the young men will have the advantage of being given mechanical training and the young women a household science training as well as the ordinary work that is done in the schools, and where both sexes will be taught music, vocal and instrumental, then will come the time when we shall have a class of young men and women with a sound education that will eminently fit them for going into the agricultural schools to get the kind of scientific vocational education that is taught there, which will complete their training and make them efficient as well as contented and happy men and women on the farm. To my mind, a system of education should be so arranged that no matter at what stage the pupil drops out of your system that pupil should carry away the maximum of training for use throughout life. Therefore, we should start in to make our course as practical as possible, from the kindergarten right through to the university. We should not overlook what the occupation is likely to be of the pupil we are training; and I am looking forward, Mr. Chairman, to the time in this Province of Alberta when the boys and girls will start in the consolidated school, where they will get their training not only up to Grade eight and carrying along with it the highest and best amount of practical pre-vocational training that can be given them for the purpose of their life work, but they will be able to cover at least two years more of a practical course, not the kind perhaps that is being taught in the high schools at the present time, but a course more related to the life work of the pupils, where they will learn farm accounting and bookkeeping and all that sort of thing, as well as get a very much better general education, and at about the age of sixteen or so those who can afford it will be able to go to the agricultural school and finish up the education that will make farming in this Province of Alberta a success. (Applause).

The Chairman:

On behalf of the Association I beg to thank the Minister of Education for his address to us which has been so interesting.

In further reference to the work the Department of Agriculture is doing in the Province, I wish to add the appreciation we feel towards the heads of Departments in that Department, from the deputy down, with whom we have a great deal to do. They are certainly all working in our interests and for the best interests of the Province and doing everything they can to co-operate with the work of the agricultural societies.

Adjournment

We will now close the most successful meeting that the Alberta Agricultural Fairs Association has ever had. We are greatly indebted to Professor Howes, President Reynolds, The Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Education for their addresses to-night, and I feel sure the speakers all appreciate the splendid attention they have had from you, I will ask the delegates to be on hand at ten o'clock to-morrow morning. The meeting then closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Richardson, at ten o'clock on Thursday morning, March 2nd, 1916.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Mr. Galbraith:

Within the last few minutes I broke my spectacles and cannot read what I was going to read to you, but I want just to emphasize some of the things I mentioned yesterday which were also referred to very forcibly by Mr. Marshall later on. Two things in particular, one is the necessity of keeping up the interest in your fairs, and to see that they do not fall back or remain stagnant; they must progress in order to be any good. The other is the question whether it is right to keep open competition for all and sundry to come to the local fairs. I agree thoroughly with Mr. Marshall that it is the right thing in the case of the Edmonton and Calgary Fairs to have open competition, but for the average little local fair I think it is entirely wrong. We have seen the so-called professional exhibitor from the east come and sweep away the prizes, and I think that is discouraging to the breeders in our own district, who are showing cattle or sheep or hogs, and they cannot keep them up to the highest notch to compete with the professional men from Ontario who come in and carry away the largest part of the prize money.

I hope to be in a position to visit many of the fairs myself next fall; unfortunately I arrived last fall too late to see many of them. If there is anything I can do that will assist you I will be only too glad to do it.

A Delegate:

There are a lot of delegates here to-day that have been thinking over these proposals and they would like to hear from Mr. Marshall, whether he thinks we should cut out outside Alberta exhibits from Alberta fairs or not,—whether he thinks that any stock that is raised in Alberta should be kept out from any Alberta fair. I would like to hear Mr. Marshall's opinion.

Hon. Duncan Marshall:

There are fairs that only admit stock from a certain distance around, but I would certainly say that every exhibition held in the province should be open to livestock owned in the province. I do not think Mr. Galbraith has anything of that nature in mind. Our object is to encourage the very best stock that there is in Alberta. I know I would be glad at our exhibition at Olds if some of the men that have good cattle would bring them there and make a good fair. Perhaps some of the men in the neighborhood would buy some of that stuff if they would bring it there. The only thing we object to is the so-called professional exhibitors; that is the man who sends a menagerie through the country, who looks over all the prize lists and picks out the easiest prizes to win and enters inferior stock and wins because there is no competition. Some standard should be set by the judges to refuse prizes to such inferior stock. I think the general position should be taken that all fairs in Alberta should be open to Alberta-owned stock.

The Chairman:

I think we have not got a resolution covering the matter, possibly it would be as well to take a vote on it.

A Delegate: Wouldn't the resolution that is on the paper there from Vermilion almost deal with this point?

A Delegate: There are quite a number of delegates representing fairs in the province who have a by-law that they use a 20 mile limit, that no stock over 20 miles from the fair grounds is allowed to exhibit. There are a number of fairs that have got this stipulation, and a number more are going to start it this year, and that is the idea of bringing this thing up to see whether we should be favorable to that idea of having a 20-mile limit.

A Delegate: In dealing with that question would there be any objection to our making some special classes that would only take in that territory; we have professional exhibitors in Alberta that we have to compete with just as much as we have to compete with the professional exhibitor from the East; if our society would be allowed to make this apply to some classes, that they had to be owned within 20 miles, I do not think the society should be prevented from doing it.

Mr. Hinckley: I would like to state the system we have adopted, we double the entry fee on everything outside of the Provincial Riding; inside the Riding they have a low entry fee; that worked a year ago, and the outside professional show man came in. The next year we confined it absolutely to the Riding. Last year also the same rule was adopted, and we are satisfied that we had a good fair with the double entry fee for everything outside of the Riding worked all right and I think we will use the double entry fee for professional show men.

Mr. Swift: We have with us here to-day a number of men that are in the Department of Agriculture and who have travelled round a good deal and who may have seen and heard things more than the farmers through the country; might we have a word from them?

Mr. Clement: I have done considerable judging in the last two years, and I think these associations would make a decided mistake if they bar any of the men that live in the Province from exhibiting their stock in any part of the Province. A man may think if he lives in a small locality that he has got the greatest stock in the world, but when he puts his animals into competition with really good stock he finds he has not got the animals he thinks he has. This association, if it is anything at all, is educational; and I think it would be a mistake to bar these good animals from all over the province. If a man has a chance to exhibit his good stock he has an opportunity to sell them, and that benefits the man who exhibits them and also the man that buys the stock; they see what these animals are like and it gives them an opportunity to buy them at a reasonable price. I think it would be a great mistake to bar these men from exhibiting at any fair in the province when they see fit to do so; I may be wrong; I do not know, but that is my humble opinion as a man.

Hon. Mr. Marshall: Perhaps something that I said yesterday was misconstrued; I do not think there is much danger from the large exhibitors, the men who have highly fitted horses,—we are very glad to have them come to Edmonton and Calgary and Mr. Stark and Mr. Richardson make every effort to get these men to the fairs because of the educational value of a really good show, and because they are helping the development of the breed. There was an exhibit of cattle at the Edmonton Exhibition last summer that was as good as could be seen in Canada. There were good classes of Herefords, but if it had been for nothing else but for the purpose of seeing the judging of the Shorthorns it would have been well worth any farmer's trip to this city to watch the judges placing these animals. There is not much danger from these men. They only make the circuit, they only make the big fairs, they can only afford to make the fairs where the prizes are high.

There are two things that a fair can do, one is good and the other is not good, for instance, it is not good to have a fair working in a little prescribed circle, so that a few men may divide up the prize money; it is better to see a really first-class fair even if all the prize money went outside the constituency; it is not good to see a miserable little fair, seeing the same cows you have seen year after year at the hind end of a wagon, and have the prize money divided up year after year among the same men. I think Mr. Clement in what he said will back me up in this, and he has visited more fairs

in the last two years than any other man in my department for he has been continually judging; and in 99 out of 100 of the small fairs you see absolutely nothing but Alberta stock. Is that not true?

Mr. Clement: Quite true.

Mr. Marshall: In Calgary and Edmonton and perhaps in Red Deer, there will be these outside men who make the circuit. I think there is some danger in having a line drawn round the show of destroying the usefulness of the exhibition and making it a kind of a by-word in the community; there is far more danger in that than there is in men coming in from a little distance, and if they do so and take the trouble to bring you good stock I think you should be glad to see them. I want to get it out of the minds of the people that exhibitions are primarily for the purpose of dividing up a few dollars in prize money among the farmers of a particular section. I think our fairs will run much less danger if they encourage the idea that people can get a chance to exhibit, and I do not believe they will be very much trouble with the kind of men you have been speaking about. We have not got a regulation to say that all fairs must be open to all livestock and make that a rule, but if the results of the prescribed fairs are in the next year or so what they have been in the past we may be compelled to do that.

Mr. Clement: I have, as Mr. Marshall has said, been judging at a good many fairs, and I would be the last man to pour cold water on any young fair in this Province. I believe that some fair associations are just satisfied to exist, they do not want to work at all. I want to say that the small fair is where I get my reputation, where there are few exhibits. I have established a reputation as a horse judge over night, and in one place in particular I gave the best satisfaction that any man could do, I gave every horse that was at that exhibition first prize. (Laughter). There was a young lad with a saddle pony, he was coming in, but he did not get in soon enough; I met him on the road, and he said he had not been in, but I just put first prize on his horse, halter and all.

This, however, is a serious matter; these things are educational, and if they do not try to advance a little more these fairs should be eliminated altogether. I went to one or two fairs, and the secretary was not there at all, and the president just happened to be there for an hour or two. That is a very bad example for a secretary not to be at the show; he should not stay at home; he can get a man to take his place for \$5, and some of you men would be surprised to know that this thing prevails largely in some parts of the Province. I must say that I see a marked improvement in the fairs in the north-western part of the Province and these men are taking an interest in the thing and improving their fairs.

Mr. Jack: It seems to me that this question needs a little bit of analysis, for we find quite a good deal of dissention on the question. There are a number who want a local fair, and there are also a number who want it wide open. In going over the analysis of those who want the local fair we find that they are thinking of the prize money, and I think the idea in most of their minds is the fact that the outsider is coming in year after year and taking all the prize money, and the local man is getting discouraged and keeping away from the fair. It seems to me that Mr. Richardson's idea would meet this situation.

Hon. Mr. Marshall: The local men should not get discouraged, and if somebody comes in and beats him, if he is any good he will get some better stock next year and trim the hide of the other fellow, and if he is not progressive enough to do that giving him a \$10 prize will just make him more contented and he will sit down and do nothing.

Mr. Jack: That is true to a great extent, but in the newer parts of the Province our means are decidedly limited, and a man is often not able to procure good stock, although he knows good stock when he sees it.

Hon. Mr. Marshall: Is there much danger in these outside districts of men travelling a long way to exhibit?

Mr. Jack: Well, will we ask them to come, coax them to come, or will we keep them out. My contention has always been to have them come in. I have fought it very hard with our own board, and last year we managed to get it open in the Poultry section. As the secretary of the society I notice one or two things; there were one or two men in our district, there were a

number in the poultry, and when they heard that the other people were coming in none of them brought their poultry to exhibit them. One or two said that they heard that the professional poultry is coming and I am going to see it, and I am going to put my stuff in there and see what it will do, and I was tickled to death to see that that man won first and second prize. If you eliminate this it seems to me that you can never get to the ideal way of working; you can never get enough good stock to your place, but on the other hand it is equally true that if you give out all the prize money from the home district, from the smaller fairs, you are liable to go bankrupt and if not, you are going to cause a loss of interest on the part of a number of the home exhibitors. We must hit upon a remedy which will keep them encouraged and at the same time keep the other stuff coming in, and you must remember there are quite a few places like ourselves that are 90 miles from Edmonton, and I daresay there is not 5 per cent. of our people can either afford to take the time or the expense to visit an educational exhibition like the Edmonton Fair. We must educate them at home, we must show them what kind of stock they must have at our local fairs; for that reason I want to get as good stuff as I possibly can to come to our local show.

Mr. Hinckley: The reason we adopted our system two years ago was we had some home exhibitors that would not come in and show against outside professional men, so the Board went to work and adopted a system of putting a double entry fee on outside stock coming in, but it came in just the same, and still there was a growl with the old exhibitors. Two years ago we adopted the system of confining our fair to the Riding and nothing outside of that was exhibited; we found out we did not get any more home exhibitors than we did when we had an open fair. Last year, and of course we have got men on the board that want to get prize money, last year we confined it to the Riding again, but we did not get any more stock from our Riding in the exhibit, and in fact, we got some less, and for that reason I would like to make a motion endorsing the resolution advocating the open fair in the Province of Alberta.

The President:

The question we are considering is the following resolution:—

RESOLUTION

“That in the opinion of this Association it is advisable that all agricultural Societies should hold their competitions open to all breeders in the Province of Alberta.”

This Resolution has been duly moved and seconded, and we have had a most interesting discussion. If you are now ready for the question we will vote upon the resolution.

Upon the question being called for the vote was taken and the Resolution was declared adopted by a unanimous vote.

REPORT OF FAIR DATES COMMITTEE

The President: I will now ask the Secretary to read to you the report of the Fair Dates Committee.

The Secretary:

I will now read the report of the Fair Dates Committee. This work is getting harder all the time and this year it is necessary to provide dates for 94 societies, and of course, every society wants to keep the date just suggested, and quite a number seem to have excellent reasons why it was absolutely necessary for them to have a particular Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday.

I have often wondered how long we can go on multiplying these small societies and dividing up the work of the societies and apparently getting nowhere.

I feel that I am to a certain extent privileged to make this remark, as I can go back in Agricultural Society work to May, 1904, when the first convention was held in Alberta, then the North-West Territories. I can assure you that I believe I am the only one here who was then present and at that time it was rather an easy matter to fix the dates of the Fairs. We

would meet at 10 o'clock and be through by noon and be ready to take in the livestock show and sale in the afternoon, but it has been getting bigger all the time, and the task is becoming exceedingly hard.

One of the things it would be well to remember is this, that there are six working days in the week, and it is not only unfair to the department to say that only two fairs shall be held in a week, but with the majority of the small fairs it means that the judges are used only two days in the week, as they can easily get through their judging in one day, but of course they have to be paid for the six days, and the reason for that is that so many of the societies think it is impossible for them to hold their fairs either on a Monday or a Saturday.

We have 94 fairs, and a large number of these fairs, the big majority of them, want to come in between August 20th and September 20th. The result is that it is going to make it mighty hard to provide judges at all, especially when you have only two fairs a week. In the present instance there are a few societies who now state that they like Saturday, one or two said that they have now tried Saturday and they think that is the best day in the week for fair purposes.

There is still a pretty strong prejudice against Mondays; there is no reason for it, and I think we ought to be fair to the department and arrange for that day; the first day is nearly always a gathering day anyway.

If the societies would remember that they can take Monday to start on it would mean that many societies who perhaps have been dissatisfied with the class of judges that they have been provided with would get better judges because the department would not be so hard put to it to get good men to go to the fairs.

I have been helping to arrange fair dates ever since 1904 and I know a little bit about some of the problems we have to run up against in fixing these dates, and it seems to me that a few remarks of this kind might perhaps come from me even if the officers of the department might not feel justified in making them.

You will find that some of the societies have been given Mondays and some of them have been given Saturday. Try it. Don't try to upset the whole circuit which has been arranged with a good deal of trouble this year. There is a large number of circuits this year, more than ever before, and the list is as follows:—

SCHEDULE OF FAIR DATES FOR 1916

Crossfield	June 21-22
Calgary	June 29 to July 5
Red Deer	July 6 to 8
Edmonton	July 11 to 15
Alix	July 12

Okotoks	July 18-19
High River	July 20-21
Nanton	July 25-26
Claresholm	July 27-28
Stavely	August 1
Granum	August 2-3
Vulcan	August 3-4
Carmangay	August 8-9
Macleod	August 10-11
Gleichen	August 15-16
Langdon	August 16

Oyen	August 7-8
Chinook	August 9
Hanna	August 10-11
Highland	August 15
Munson	August 16
Youngstown	August 17-18

Empress	September 5
Berry Creek	September 8

Cochrane	September 5-6
Didsbury	September 7-8
Rocky Mountain House	September 11-12
Ponoka	September 12-13
Innisfail	September 13-14
Leduc	September 19
Olds	September 20-21
Milnerton	September 22
Hays (Lousana)	September 26
Triochu	September 27-28

Raymond	August 29-30-31
Cardston	September 1-2
Deseret (Magrath)	September 5-6
Warner	September 7-8

Stettler	September 15-16
Castor	September 18-19
Gadsby	September 20

Three Hills	July 25
Carbon	July 26
Swalwell	July 27-28

Stony Plain	August 15
Vegreville	August 16-17
Camrose	August 18-19
Wetaskiwin	August 22-23

St. Albert	September 4-5
Fort Saskatchewan	September 6-7
Kitscoty	September 8
Lloydminster	September 12-13
Vermilion	September 14-15
Mannville	September 19
Innisfree	September 20-21

Coronation	August 14-15
Consort	August 16-17
Bideford	August 18

Chauvin	August 1
Irma	August 2
Strome-Killam	August 4
Sedgewick	August 8
Daysland	August 9-10
Provost	August 10
Hardisty	August 11
Lacombe	August 15-16-17

Colinton	September 1
Edson	September 5
Entwistle	September 6
Onoway	September 7
Nakamun	September 8
Mid-Pembina (Dunstable)	September 12
Paddle River	September 13
Westlock	September 14
Athabasca	September 15-16

Pincher Creek	September 22-23
Taber	September 25-26
Grassy Lake	September 27-28
Winnifred	September 29
Priddis & Millarville	October 3
Bowden	October 4
Bashaw	October 6

St. Paul des Metis	September 6
Elk Point	September 8

Viking	September 6
Tofield	September 7
Holden	September 8
Wainwright	September 12-13
Edgerton	September 14

In reference to Northern Fairs it is recommended that the dates be fixed by the Superintendent of Fairs and Institutes, after consultation with those conversant with conditions.

Griffin Creek.
Lesser Slave Lake (High Prairie).
Grand Prairie.
Water Hole.
Peace River Crossing.
Spirit River.
Lake Saskatoon and Beaver Lodge.

It was moved and seconded: That the report of the Committee on Fairs Dates be adopted as read, and on the question being put, it was declared carried by a unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION No. 3

It was moved by Mr. Stephens and seconded by Mr. Hopkins:—

"That, owing to the difficulty in securing competent judges, the Department of Agriculture be asked to furnish judges for Dairy Produce and Vegetable Sections at Fall Fairs."

A delegate asks that poultry should be added to this Resolution.

Mr. McGorman: I think that the department has trouble enough to secure judges for cattle and horses; I think this should be left to the Agricultural Societies to secure competent men themselves to judge these departments. I move to that effect.

Mr. Richards: I second that motion.

A Delegate: We have had a couple of judges provided by the Dairy Department, and I think it should stand the way it is.

Mr. Malcolm: I believe the commissioner of dairy products of Alberta writes to each fair; I know I got a letter from him last year and he wanted to know if we had exhibits that would warrant a Government judge coming down there, and I think there are very few of these local fairs that want a judge to come down. I believe it is an easy matter to get judges for vegetables, and I believe one town could change with another; for instance, we change off with another fair, they send us a judge to judge our vegetables, and we send them a judge to judge theirs. I believe the department has been very good in the past, but there is no use of the department sending a judge away out in the country to judge dairy products if there is nothing there. The department wrote to know if there was anything to justify sending a man.

The Chairman: We will put the amendment first that it be left to the Agricultural Societies, with the explanation that has just been made that the dairy commissioner is anxious to help wherever he can.

The amendment is accordingly put and declared carried.

RESOLUTION No. 4

The Chairman: The following Resolution, and recommendation has been submitted by the Taber Agricultural Society:—

“Resolved: That Subsection 1 of Section 33 of the Agricultural Societies Act be amended to the effect that it is not compulsory for agricultural societies to hold two institute meetings during the year in order to get the membership grant.”

In connection with this Resolution the Taber Agricultural Society submits further:—

“Institute meetings are not popular any more and in a majority of the districts it is practically impossible to get even a small crowd out to them. We now have more important factors which are replacing them, and these are the Demonstration Trains, Short Court Schools, and special excursions to the Demonstration Farms. These are more important to the farmer where he can go on the ground and see for himself in preference to lectures, therefore we ask that a resolution be prepared and presented to the Department of Agriculture asking for the amendment to the above clause. This is not with an idea of discouraging Institute Meetings, because where you can hold them and secure good crowds by all means continue them for the good of the district.”

The Chairman: It may be that since the organization of demonstration farms, and since the inauguration of short courses of training that conditions have changed with regard to the necessity for requiring instituted meetings. I think perhaps in this connection it would be best to hear from the Minister of Agriculture.

Hon. Mr. Marshall: I just might say that we amended the Act either last year or the year before in this particular, so that a society was exempt from holding institute meetings provided they had a visit from a short course school, and that meetings held in connection with these would take the place of the institute meetings. I quite recognize the importance of this Resolution in the sense that in the older settled districts the institute meetings are not very well attended. This is not true in the newer districts of the country where the people have not been fed up with institute meetings. I think institute meetings are of more importance and have a greater relative value and consequently are better attended when held away from the towns and I have always been of the opinion that if a society would hold its institute meeting 6 or 8 miles out from the town in a country school house they would do better than by having them in town in the afternoon, where men have come into town to do their business. If you have a meeting in town at night there are only a few men who live near it that will attend. I would be quite willing to exempt societies, but it must be remembered that the appropriation is given for the purpose of educational work, and if societies want to get out of the educational work, then we will have to let them get out of the educational grant. The Provincial grant was not offered for the payment of prizes, it was offered for educational work exclusively, and if

the societies wish to do away with educational work, then we will be very glad to retain the amount in the department and to use it for educational work.

However, I think a good deal of good work can be done. It was suggested to me yesterday that a society should be exempt from the institute meeting provided 25 of its members attended an excursion to one of the demonstration farms such as we hold in the summer; and that such attendance should represent an institute meeting, as that would be as useful as any institute meeting, but I want it distinctly understood that the Provincial grant is an educational grant and it must be used for educational purposes either through the society or by the department.

Mr. Mace: We have had many privileges in connection with the School of Agriculture, and we also feel that we are interested in the institute meetings; last year we had two institute meetings. There are two ways of holding the institute meeting, the directors may say to themselves, we will have an institute meeting on a certain date, and then dream that everybody knows about it; but we don't do it in that way at Vermilion, we advertise it, and advertise it well for a fortnight or three weeks before the meeting takes place. Last year we held two meetings which dealt with matters which probably do not come up in the School of Agriculture, one was pure seed, and another one was the question of the cultivation of potatoes. We advertised these two meetings and we had the pleasure of having Professor Howes to give these two addresses. At the first meeting we had between 80 and 90 practical farmers in attendance and showing great interest, and out of that there was a seed centre formed for the disposal of pure seed and that is in existence to-day. I think I may say to Mr. Howes that he initiated that society which grew out of the institute meeting, and the result is that the association considers itself of considerable importance and has rendered great assistance in the disposal of seed. The next was potatoes, some grew one sort, and some another, and there was not enough of any one grade on any individual farm to make a shipment, but we adopted one particular potato, it was the Wee McGregor, and the result was that people were able to grow enough potatoes to ship carloads away, and there was an association for that. Personally I would not support this resolution; we are pleased to avail ourselves of the opportunities we have had and we are pleased to acknowledge the information we get and the instruction we get by way of the institute meetings and it seems to me you are going to lose the farmers' interest in particular matters which perhaps they want education on.

It was then moved and seconded that this Resolution be tabled and the amendment was unanimously adopted.

RESOLUTION No. 5

"Whereas it is the opinion of this Society that Provincial-owned stock is not fitted to compete with the exhibits from the Eastern Provinces, as the Provincial Breeders are not in a position to feed and care for the stock in the same manner as the Eastern Breeders;

"It is therefore resolved that the Alberta Fairs Association be requested to have separate classes for Provincial Stock exhibited from the Eastern Provinces, and the United States of America; and that the same be not allowed to compete with Provincial-owned stock."

A Delegate: I think that this matter has been covered by the previous discussion and I move that the resolution be tabled.

Mr. Mace: This has been largely dealt with previously by the Honorable Duncan Marshall, but the point before my directors was this. This does not refer to the local fairs, but when the local exhibitors, farmers in the neighborhood, who have pure stock want to go to Edmonton or Calgary, they clash with the bigger exhibitors from the East, with men who are stock-breeders, and only stock-breeders, whereas we are farmers as well as stock-breeders, and we cannot keep our stock and cattle in such well-groomed condition as these Eastern exhibitors can, who are purely stock men. We have to shew our stock just as it comes off the prairie. Should there not be a class especially for those who are only stock breeders and who are privileged to exhibit their stock. Should there not be a class especially for

them in these larger exhibitions and another class for the Provincial exhibitors, so that a man is not turned down altogether who does not have a chance to get these silky haired animals, for he cannot afford to keep them in that condition. The suggestion in the minds of my directors is that there should be a class especially for these big exhibitors from the East and the United States, and therefore give a chance to the Provincial man to get a prize.

A Delegate: If the gentlemen would take the President's new scheme of prizes home it might eliminate that difficulty.

Mr. Mace: I do not think so.

A Delegate: I do not think that any of us are afraid to compete with anything that may have to travel 3,000 miles.

The President: Each year we hold an exhibition our breeders are getting in better condition and our stock is improving. We could not entertain this proposal, the prize list that has these two classes in it both would look so small that it is no encouragement. The local breeders will certainly get more money on the scheme we have recommended, than they would in a special classification, even if they won first. Mr. Marshall has all the information, and I think you will agree with him that the exhibitions at Calgary and at Edmonton are where outside stock can come in, yet our Provincial stock can rub up against the outsiders and still win out. We will have competition to compete against among ourselves, and the benefit of the outside stock as well, if they are better than ours. The assistance given by the Dominion is really given for that purpose. We could not, if we wished, ask for this, and in any event we think it would be bad business.

On motion by Mr. Bjorkeland and seconded by Mr. McIntosh and carried unanimously, this motion is laid on the table.

RESOLUTION No. 6

Moved by Mr. McCleery, and seconded by Mr. Knight:

"That the Provincial Government be requested to provide more aid towards the extermination of the gophers and coyotes."

Mr. Cook: I take the position that we need to treat this matter from a rather broader view-point. I had in mind in speaking the possibility that in the older countries they have adopted a virus which injected into a rat causes this poison to spread from one rat to another and exterminates whole communities. I think it is quite possible and practicable to have these gopher pests treated along these lines. Last year we had Mr. Marshall's secretary tell us of some experiments, but they were not entirely satisfactory. I remember some years ago they were drowned out, and in five years they were thicker than I have ever seen them. I think any method of dealing with gophers is purely local, it is quite possible and practicable for each man to so treat his own land that he will protect his own crops, but at the best that is not the objective, we need some larger Government scheme that can only be done by Government, and cannot be done by the individual. I hope we can invest these gophers with some kind of virus which will exterminate the whole race of gophers through Western Canada.

Mr. Marshall: I might say that for two years we have been doing some experimenting, and we are still working on it, with a virus just such as Mr. Cook has described. The first virus we got from a German scientist in Berlin who had been working on this for some years; he had succeeded in killing rats and thought it would kill gophers. We got a shipment of it and had it analyzed to know what it was. We inoculated the gophers with it but I regret to say that they thrived on it. It was not any good at all. It did not affect them a bit. We have a particularly good scientist in our Claresholm School of Agriculture, and as well as being a scientist he is one of the best bacteriologists in the Dominion of Canada, and since that time he has been devoting some of his time to this question; he has nothing yet that has been successful, but he does not see any reason why it cannot be worked out. It is like every other scientific problem of that kind, it will probably come to him or come to somebody else by a sort of an accident. I believe that when it does, when we do secure it, it will be the solution of the gopher problem. It will require something like this to exterminate gophers.

For the Government to put a bounty on gophers would be somewhat of a joke, the Government would have to pay bounty on all the gopher tails from Montana and Saskatchewan. We paid it on coyotes, and I may as well be perfectly frank with you, the Government will never do it again. One of my neighbors got 10 coyotes, and sold them for \$75, \$7.50 a skin, and I do not see how it is going to help to exterminate them to put on a bounty of 50 cents. I know that people are often ready to pass resolutions for the Government to pay a bounty, but instead of passing resolutions if they would get a rifle it would be more effective. I was pleased to see a man last year get up at the meeting of the United Farmers and make a statement to this effect. Some of our farmers have been hunting them because their pelts have been worth all the way from \$5 to \$8, and I do not think that there is much sense in the Government paying a bounty on coyotes at that price.

The gopher pest is a serious problem in some parts of this province; it is not a serious pest where I live. I had to buy the boys a 22 rifle and about 1000 rounds of ammunition and I don't know whether they have killed 1000 gophers or not but they thinned them out anyway. I do not believe that any benefit or any practical good could come from the Government paying a bounty, but I do believe that something could be done in the way of experimenting with poison. We have a new poison that has been brought to our attention lately and we are going to try it out this summer. This poison is mixed with water and put in a dish and it is claimed that it will bring the gophers to it and that there is no danger of its poisoning other animals that are about. We are going to make some experiments with it this summer.

There is another poison, the most effective gopher poison we have yet tried. The formula was given out by the Agricultural College of North Dakota and I think it is the most effective poison that has been yet used. The Municipalities are authorized to purchase any such poison and assist the farmers to exterminate these pests on their land. The Canadian Pacific Railway are putting out a good deal of poison on their land especially along the right of way in the dry section, and I think the result should be beneficial. So far as the Government is concerned, I do not think that either the Government or the members of the Legislature would consider the payment of any bounty. In the State of Iowa they used to pay a bounty but they have more coyotes now than they ever had before. Perhaps the coyotes, knowing that there was a bounty there, crowded into that State. The history of the bounty business with regard to coyotes has been the same as the history with regard to fish and everything else; as a noted public man said they go out to catch the bounty and not to catch the fish. The history of the bounty on coyotes in every State of the Union has always been the same story. These are pests that will disappear with settlement, and in the meantime we have to fight them as best we can and keep them off our flocks. They may destroy a certain amount, I fancy every beast they destroy we hear a good deal about it; I do not know any man in my neighborhood who has lost a sheep or a pig or even a hen; they lose some by frost, they lost more by frost this winter than they did by coyotes. That is my honest opinion, and I give it to you as I give most of my opinions, candidly and frankly.

A Delegate: In some districts they give prizes for gopher tails; there are ten boys that I know of that accounted for 30,000 gophers, and I know they are getting scarce in the territory.

Mr. Marshall: Local Improvement Districts are doing that kind of work, and some Agricultural Societies are doing that.

A Delegate: Our Council bought 1000 pounds of strychnine each year for the last three years, it has done its work there; they put it on every quarter-section, and every man was compelled to put down that gopher poison; if he did not put it down they sent men to put it down at his expense; last year we did not have one gopher there for 50 that we had formerly. We nearly wiped them out, and they have not done any damage the last two years worth speaking about.

Mr. Richards: I have had a good deal of experience in that line; this poison that Mr. Marshall recommended, we tried that this summer, and

we never had anything that cleared them off so well before; strychnine is not in it with that.

Mr. Cook: The Poison Act prevents any dealer selling it, if he acts in strict accordance with the law of the Province.

Mr. Marshall: The Attorney General is preparing an amendment to the Pharmacy Act that is going to cover that; he thinks that the secretaries of the United Farmers' Associations are quite as careful about poisons as the druggists.

Mr. McIntosh moved that the Resolution be tabled which is seconded and carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION No. 7

"Resolved: That the Provincial Government be requested to assist farmers in getting a better strain of dairy cattle, by the Government purchasing well-bred dairy cows and selling them to the farmers on one or two years' payments, when said farmer has been recommended by the Agricultural Society to which he belongs, as being a settler whom the Society believes will pay for and care for such stock.

A Delegate: This Resolution will tend to help the small farmer who wants to get good stock but whose means are limited; the small farmer has not the means to travel around the country and visit the fairs, and is unable to pay the prohibitive prices that are asked for them, therefore the association thought that sufficient assistance ought to be given to the small farmer and homesteader to enable him to undertake this, especially with regard to dairying, and our Minister of Agriculture has explained to us that dairying is the support of the small farmer. In the district in which I live this is the case, we are frozen out some years, and we have only green feed and I move the adoption of this Resolution on this ground that the small farmer wants to get a start with good stock and needs some assistance.

Mr. Mace: It looks to me almost unreasonable to ask the Government to accept this Resolution in this way; it is throwing an unusual responsibility upon the Government and in doing so I would suggest that there should be added to that resolution if our friend is willing these words: That the Agricultural Societies be responsible for the payments in so far as their grants may extend." (Laughter). I fully expected that, but let us be fair about it, we have got to be fair to the Government as we want assistance from the Government. There are some societies which accept no responsibilities and that would allow any Tom, Dick or Harry to get stock and the Government accept the responsibility of supplying this stock. What have they got to fall back upon if a crook is recommended for this stock, have the Government got to go and fish for their stock the best way they can? It is all very well to say that they can take their stock back again, but there is a lot of deterioration going on, and if the societies are made to accept the responsibility to the extent of their grant it will make them precious careful of the cases they recommend for that stock.

A Delegate: About five years ago the Government of Alberta had a lot of these enquiries from all over the Province; at that time the dairy business was right in its infancy and there was a great need of dairy cattle. We had a good healthy class of cattle in the Province of Alberta, but they wanted to get into the business as quick as possible, and the Government of Alberta enquired from some breeders and others what they thought of the possibilities of filling the Province of Alberta with dairy cattle. About that time the States and Eastern Canada were passing by-laws whereby they could clear out cattle infected with disease, and this thing seems to fit in pretty good, for it was at that time that the settlers of Alberta wanted to stock up their dairy farms. They put confidence in some man that they thought was honest and at that time there were thousands and thousands of dairy cattle shipped into Alberta, and they were sold to settlers at \$125 to \$100 a head.

Hon. Duncan Marshall: Don't connect the Government with Butler or any other of these men that were shipping like every other livestock dealer, —shipping a lot of rubbish into this Province, and the farmers went to auction sales and bought it, and we could do nothing to help them.

Mr. Gilbert: The Government should have stopped them.

Mr. Marshall: We could not forbid them, we could not forbid him bringing them in, and we could not stop you going to Calgary and paying a fool price.

Mr. Gilbert: They put references from the Government in the bank, I am referring to those boys that were here, the McIntyres.

Mr. Marshall: We ought to know more about McIntyre than you did if he used our name.

Mr. Gilbert: He did use your name.

Mr. Marshall: I suppose any dealer can use the name of his bank.

Mr. Gilbert: They had a recommend by the Alberta Government.

Mr. Marshall: I wish you had sent me that, I never heard it.

A Delegate: I am the only man in the Province that knows these things.

Mr. Marshall: Why did you conceal it all this time?

Mr. Gilbert: I know these cattle were bought at \$125 or \$135, and the dairy men in the City of Edmonton backed the notes and had to put up the money out of their own pockets to pay for the cattle, and cattle were brought in that were infected with tuberculosis and at the present time there are more children being poisoned with tuberculosis milk in the City of Edmonton than there are soldiers being killed at the war. (Laughter). I say from Edmonton, there are more children contracting tuberculosis in Edmonton than there are soldiers from Edmonton being killed. There is tuberculosis in 60 per cent. of the herd around this district and it is time there was something done. And if the farmers want to get more cattle and better cattle, and the way for the farmers who want to get more cattle and better cattle is not to buy them but to breed them, they should buy better bulls and have cattle better than they have, and it would save having the Government bringing anything in from outside. I bought one cow with tuberculosis and she cost me \$3,000, and I know men who have bought cattle and put them into a herd, and these men are not able to figure how much they have lost.

Hon. Duncan Marshall: I just might say we remember when milk was \$2.40 net wholesale at the railway stations of this province, as it was over a couple of years ago when the cities were full of real estate millionaires, and any of you farmers who have farmed in the Eastern provinces know that you can make pretty well out of \$1.00 net, and no doubt there were great inducements to go into dairying, and two-thirds of the men that went into dairying were men that were not in it before. These fellows went to auction sales. I only attended one that Butler held in Calgary, and it was a shame the amount they paid for cows and nobody had any idea of how they were bred or what they would produce, and if anybody had tried to stop the farmers doing that they would have mobbed him for they evidently believed that milk would always be \$2.50. This kind of thing will happen once in a while in any country, but this is the first intimation that any of them used the name of the Department of Agriculture; no farmer ever told me, and if they gave my name or the name of my department to any banker he never wrote to us. If they had, we would have known at once, for no person who dealt in cattle in this Province in any way had any authority to do that kind of thing.

Some of these cows were affected with tuberculosis, and there was a resolution moved at the last meeting of the Western Canada Live Stock Union asking the Dominion Government which has charge of the matter of tuberculosis to prevent anyone bringing in these cattle. The question of tuberculosis and how to deal with it is a very difficult problem, and I have very great sympathy with the Dominion Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Martin Burrell in the matter. He is a good Minister of Agriculture, he is progressive, and is using his department for the furthering of agriculture, and I know he is putting forth every effort to solve some serious problems and there is no more difficult one than tuberculosis in cattle. I have done some figuring, and it would cost somewhere between 50 and 75 millions to clean it up in Canada. That is a staggering thing. They investigated this matter in one single state, Wisconsin, and they found that it would take between 50 and 60 millions to clean it up there. We do a certain amount of

testing. When we sell a bull or heifer it is always tested for tuberculosis and the stock we will sell next fall will be all tested for tuberculosis. If a man goes out to an auction sale and buys a cow and he takes her home, and she is infected, she is very apt to infect the whole herd, and as has been said you may test the herd and kill all that you find, and you think you have got them all, but you find in six months after that you have three or four more, and in another 6 months you can do this again and you find that some of these have caught it from some of the others that were incubating the disease when you tested first. That would mean having inspectors all over Canada in every man's barn-yard, and that is practically impossible and I do not believe that 75 million dollars would clean it up. I do not blame the Dominion Minister of Agriculture for moving slowly. It is a staggering undertaking for any department, and it may be that the only thing they can do is what they are doing, making modifications from time to time and endeavoring to overcome it to some extent. In British Columbia they passed an Act, it was ultra vires, but the Dominion Government did not notice it for over twelve months and it went on the Statute Book and stayed there. Manitoba passed a similar Act but it was disallowed. They claim that they had clean herds, but they made a recent test of one of the herds, and they found 70 per cent. of them were affected with tuberculosis. This thing has so many ramifications and it would take so much effort and so much expenditure of money that it is a pretty staggering thing.

I was very glad to hear the remarks made by the delegate from Vermilion. This is a proposition to buy cows and give them to the farmers. If the Government could go and say to a practical man: "Here, you are a man that we can sell a cow to," and to another, "You are a man that we cannot sell it to because your circumstances are such that you would not be able to pay for it," but a Government cannot do that. What it does for one farmer it has a right to do for every other farmer. The Patriotic Association say, "This woman, her husband is rich," and of another, "Her husband is poor, we will give her \$30 a month." The Patriotic Association can do that but a Government cannot do that. If the Government were to administer the Patriotic Fund the rich man's wife would have to get as much out of it as the poor man's wife. The separation allowance is the same to the wife of the millionaire as to the wife of the poor man, that is why they are administering this money in the way they are because the Patriotic Association is independent of the Government and can administer this fund in a discriminating way. They can tell Jones' wife that she is entitled to get \$30 a month and can tell Smith's wife who is getting \$2,000 a year that she cannot get anything. The question of selling to the farmers is a very difficult one. A thrifty careful farmer would come to the Government, but there would also come the thriftless fellow who did not mean to pay the Government, and did not mean to do anything with the cows, and of course he would be the first fellow on the job with his hat out to get the money to buy a cow. We will say that Jones gets a cow, and he does not intend to pay the Government, and he does not intend to give her any care whatever but Smith comes to buy a cow, and he takes care of her and her calf, while the other fellow lets his calf die, he lets it run around the stable he does not pay any attention to the cow. Smith comes and pays for his cow like a man but he says, "Here is my neighbor who did not take care of his cow, he absolutely neglected her, and you let him slide, he does not have to pay, and because I am thrifty and careful and industrious and kept my cow well you make me pay up for it."

There is only one solution of this livestock problem, and that is livestock banks organized for the purpose of lending money to men whose promise is good, where the moral risk is a good one even if the financial risk is not so good. We are going to have live stock banks, but the Alberta Farmers' Association and the Government have agreed that this is no time to borrow money for that purpose, or the money must be borrowed cheap enough so that when the farmer gets it it must not cost him more than 6 per cent. The Dominion Government say that they are going to pass legislation along these lines; we are not sure what their legislation will be; it may be legislation empowering the provinces to do certain things, and our Government has stated that if they do that the Provincial Government will give effect to

that; we are prepared to submit legislation if passed by the Dominion Government, or to pass legislation on our own account. When the war is over doubtless money will be got in the country cheaper than it has been for the last ten years, for the rich man is hoarding his money. This war is so terrific, and he does not know what the outcome is going to be, that he is just hoarding his money until it is over. When it is over this money will doubtless be thrown into commercial channels and governments may be able to get money at a reasonable rate. I can assure you that the Government of this Province, and I am quite sure that the Government of the Dominion of Canada as indicated through their Finance Minister the other day are going to do something, and I believe that the solution will be on the lines of a livestock bank. The best solution of this problem is to have an organization where the farmer can go and get his money and go out and buy his cattle on his own judgment, and it is likely that some way will be found whereby the Government can bring this about.

The President: I think in view of the remarks of the Minister of Agriculture it is quite clear that this Resolution is not very workable, and I would like to have the meeting say whether it should be tabled.

It is moved and seconded and carried unanimously that this Resolution be tabled.

RESOLUTION No. 8

"Resolved, that the Alberta Fairs Association now in convention assembled, hereby place on record its approval of the formation of a Dominion Dairy Shorthorn Breeders' Association, and that the Dominion Minister of Agriculture be memorialized by the Secretary of the Alberta Fairs Association.

"That in the opinion of the delegates present there is urgent need of the formation of such an association in order that the best interests of dairy Shorthorn cattle may be served, which cattle we believe to be the breed best suited to the conditions of the ordinary farmer in the Province of Alberta.

"In the establishment of a herd book for the proposed association we would respectfully recommend that the following rules be incorporated:

"First, that a standard of milk production be required before pure-bred animals be allowed to register.

"Second, that it be possible to breed up from inspected grade Shorthorn foundation stock, which stock shall be required to pass the inspection of an official of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, and shall be required to reach a certain standard as to beef type and as to milk production, and with four crosses of pure-bred Dairy Shorthorn sires the females so bred up shall be allowed to register, and that with five crosses of pure-bred Dairy Shorthorn sires the males so bred up shall be allowed to register; that sires used for grading up be the progeny of dams giving sufficient milk and butter fat to qualify in the Canadian Record of Performance."

This Resolution is moved by Mr. Day and seconded by Mr. Bjorkeland.

A Delegate: I think really that this is a little joke, we never heard tell of registration with only four crosses before; I think we always had to have seven crosses; I think it is throwing down the bars.

Mr. Marshall: That is a question for the meeting, if they want a longer period for registration.

A Delegate: I think if you use the knife more it would be a great deal better.

Mr. Day: I would like to say something about this Resolution; there is the dual purpose cow; I do not see why if she comes up to the standard in milk why that would interfere with other Shorthorns, but that is up to the meeting to discuss; there are cows that ought to be eliminated from the Shorthorn herd book, they can start an independent herd book, the people that are interested in the dual purpose cow.

A Delegate: I think the dual purpose cow is a Shorthorn really.

Mr. Day: Not necessarily, not to be in the herd book.

Mr. Greer: I visited three farmers before I bought a milk cow, and two of these farmers pointed out to me one particular cow which they claimed was the best cow in all that country, and each of these cows were large red

cows, I should say they would weigh about 600 pounds or a little better. One was part Guernsey and Polled Angus, she was a dark brown brindle cow, and the other was a Jersey and Polled Angus, she was a dark brownish-black, about the same size as the other cow, and they were taking these cows as the foundation of their Shorthorns.

The Chairman: I think you are forgetting one part of this Resolution; it says: "That it be possible to breed up from inspected grade Shorthorn foundation stock, which stock shall be required to pass the inspection of an official of the Dominion Department of Agriculture and shall be required to reach a certain standard as to beef type and as to milk production." I do not think you need any inspection at all, you can start with nothing, this requirement is to take the place of that.

Hon. Duncan Marshall: The Dominion livestock department have all the records, and they would appoint one of these men, they have representatives in every province in Canada, and the inspection would be done by an official of the Dominion Live Stock branch of the Department of Agriculture. I am not just sure whether four crosses is enough or not, I would like to hear that matter discussed. They registered them in England with four crosses but not in Canada.

A Delegate: The foundation would have to be good.

Mr. Craig: It makes me a little chary speaking in support of the Resolution at the rate you have been turning them down, but I am not anxious as to whether this Resolution is passed or not; but I am anxious that there should be a consensus of the opinion of this meeting on this question. As to increasing the number of crosses I am inclined to think it is not workable; it would likely add about 24 years to the work and by that time I think that people would be pretty well discouraged, and I really think we have safeguarded sufficient when we have the inspection of the dairy Shorthorn foundation, that must come up to a certain standard, both as to beef type and as to milk production, and I would not like to see it increased to 7, although it might be increased to something over four, but they are registered in the old country on four crosses as standard stock.

It might be as well to give to the meeting the suggested rules and regulations: These are as follows:—

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. A bull, the progeny of pure-bred animals, provided his dam has given sufficient milk and butter fat to qualify in C.R.O.P.

2. A bull, the progeny of pure-bred animals, provided four of his registered daughters have given sufficient milk to qualify in C.R.O.P.

3. A female, the progeny of pure-bred animals, provided her dam has given sufficient milk and butter fat to qualify for C.R.O.P.

4. A female, the progeny of a pure-bred sire provided her first four dams have been sired by pure-bred Dairy Shorthorn sires, and provided her first four dams have given enough milk and butter fat to qualify in C.R.O.P.

5. A male, the progeny of a pure-bred sire, provided his first five dams have been sired by pure-bred Dairy Shorthorn sires and provided his first five dams have given sufficient milk and butter fat to qualify in the C.R.O.P.

A Delegate: There is one point that I think the meeting is not very clear upon and that is, suppose I have a cow or two, and I want to start to use them, I wanted to use them as a foundation, would I have to have them inspected?

Hon. Duncan Marshall: Certainly you would, they would have to be inspected and entered at Ottawa as foundation stock from which you could afterwards register stock; that is the safeguard; this does not mean that these animals would be eligible for the ordinary Shorthorn herd, let the beef men keep their own herd book.

The Chairman: I think the objection to the small number of crosses is really due to the fact that there may be a feeling after consideration of the conditions here that the stock would not be of the same quality as they

have in the old country where the stock is on a high basis, but with this qualification, we are surely starting with just as good stock as they are starting with.

The Chairman puts the Resolution to the meeting which was carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION No. 9

"That, as it appears to be the concensus of opinion of the farmers of this district that the Hail Insurance season should be extended to October 1st in each year, instead of terminating on September 15th, also that insurance should start on May 15th.

"Resolved, that a discussion on this subject be asked for at this convention, to ascertain whether this opinion is shared by other districts."

Mr. McGorman: There was a hail-storm last year about three hours after the termination of the hail policy which had been taken out in that district, which did considerable damage; that is the reason that this resolution has been brought up for discussion.

Mr. Cook: I had a similar experience, and I think that applies to practically the whole country west; our grain does not ripen so early, and on the 15th September I had just got in about four or five hours cutting, and about two or three o'clock in the afternoon a hail storm came and thrashed about 50 per cent. of the oats, I had insurance, but it expired at one o'clock. The conditions are pretty general down there, our oats are not ripe until the 8th or the 10th, and possibly later than that, of September.

A Delegate: I would just like to move an amendment that the hail insurance come into force sooner; they call for the 15th June; this year we had a heavy hail storm before that, and any one that has fall wheat or early grain gets it badly damaged, and they have no recourse.

Mr. Reed: Being interested both in agriculture and also in hail insurance conditions I had the pleasure of attending a meeting of the hail insurance association in Calgary recently, and that question was brought up among the companies; I may say that there is no objection on the part of the companies to carry the hail insurance to October 1st, but it will have to be done at an enhanced charge over the present rate. As is well known, none of the hail insurance companies have made much money in the Province of Alberta, and if they take on extra liability you will have to consider that there will be an extra price charged. The stock companies insure from May 15th to September 15th, but some of the Mutual companies and the Municipal company cut the insurance down to June 15th.

The Chairman: It might be a good idea to have a provision so that if there is to be another charge let those who feel they want to take it pay for it.

A Delegate: I think the Government should control the hail insurance companies, they charge enough as it is; they want to get everything the farmers have.

The Secretary: If you are ready to pay for it you can get all the protection you want. The insurance companies have stated that they will issue a policy from May 15th to September 15th for a certain premium, and I believe some companies are prepared to go further, and if you want protection to October 1st or October 15th they are quite prepared to carry your insurance on the payment of the additional premium, but on the present basis they will not carry it at the present rates of insurance any longer than September the 15th.

Mr. Day: I think it is really out of our hands, we cannot dictate to the insurance companies.

The Chairman: Do you want this to go to the hail insurance companies, asking them to make them policy earlier?

Mr. Gorman: If the hail insurance companies make provision for the earlier and later dates there is no necessity for the Resolution.

Hon. Mr. Marshall: The Resolution might be sent on to the municipal hail board; they would probably have to make the premium the same as the companies do. Insurance is not in my department, it never was, Mr. Mitchell is at the head of the insurance department of the Province. We

discussed this with the United Farmers, and we certainly have no objection to the other companies carrying insurance to the end of the season. I know there was a lot of hardship this year as a result of this dropping off too early. I would expect that if you ask them to carry more risk you will have to pay more for it, but I do not suppose that the extra premium will amount to very much, and a recommendation from this body to the Municipal Hail Board will very naturally carry some weight with them, and there is no reason why they should not extend the time charging whatever it costs to carry the additional risk.

Mr. McGorman: I move that this Resolution be passed on to the hail board.

The Chairman: As amended?

Mr. Gorman: Yes.

The Chairman: This Resolution reads: "That the insurance runs from May 15th to October 15th where desired;" so that everybody won't have to take it.

The Resolution as amended is carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION No. 10

"Resolved: That this Society present to the Convention of the Alberta Agricultural Fairs Association through its delegate, and also to the Provincial and Dominion Governments its protest against the Government supplying impure seed."

A Delegate: The Dominion Government I presume are familiar with this matter, although I have not had the satisfaction of having a reply from them. There was considerable discussion, it was taken up at the locals of the U.F.A. as well as the Agricultural Societies, and it seemed to us it was very poor policy to try to get the highest standards of farming both in livestock and in crop production, when in our locality we were supplied with weed seeds to sow broadcast. The Provincial Government through the Honorable the Minister wrote that they had no control over the shipments from the Dominion Government, which we must take for granted, but nevertheless we assume that the Provincial Government could at least see that this grain was cleaned before it was supplied to the farmers. Every sack was supposed to be marked with what it contained, they were marked in most cases as I observed myself, but I heard people say it was not in every case, but in every case that I observed they were marked. But a man who could not afford to buy seed grain and pay cash for it, neither could he afford to pay for cleaning, unless he had a mill to clean that seed grain, and he was obliged to use it as he got it or leave his land uncropped. The excuse was that the time was so short, I consider myself that was a rather lame excuse, it seems to me that even if the time may be short, it would be much better policy if he could get some feed oats or even some green feed than to get a crop of weed seeds. This is not in the form of a resolution, it is simply a protest put in for your consideration.

A Delegate: The good book says that as a man soweth so shall he reap. The Dominion Government buy these seeds, and I do not think any protest from this Association will help them to do any more than they do.

The Chairman: This is a question that is not coming before us this year; perhaps they will have a chance to do better for the next time.

A Delegate: That particular deal is completed and cannot now be changed, but the idea of this protest was to safeguard ourselves that it be not repeated. I would like to get an expression from the Minister as to what the Government would do in another emergency of that kind.

Hon. Mr. Marshall: I do not hold any brief for the Dominion Government at all, but I think you are just hardly fair to them. Last year the Dominion Government had to supply eight million dollars' worth of seed to farmers in Western Canada, and this is a pretty big proposition, and some of it was not cleaned, and I would have been awfully surprised if it had all been cleaned. It is a very difficult matter to get that amount of seed and distribute it through the country. I made my protest before, I am not going to repeat it again here, as to why they did not get to work earlier, but I think the Dominion Department of Agriculture in supplying

seed to these farmers deserved a good deal of consideration for the tremendous amount they have to handle. As far as the Alberta farmers were concerned they were mighty glad to get the seed grain at all. I think we should be reasonably lenient in our criticism, because it was an extraordinary occurrence, and one that will likely never happen again in the history of the Province of Alberta.

I know that the seed department were just paralyzed in Calgary, there was so much to do and so much to be distributed, and the amount was so large, I do not think that the Dominion Government should be held responsible as if it were a small amount, and also, some of that came so late that we did not feel justified in interfering between the farmer and his getting that into the ground. It is my intention at this session of the Legislature to amend the Weed Act so that we will have power to go into, and examine all cars of grain that are shipped into the Province and are sold for seed, and that if it is necessary we will have authority to have them shipped to central cleaning points and cleaned. Last year was an extraordinary year, we needed the seed extraordinarily bad, and we got an extraordinary good crop from it.

It was moved and seconded that the Resolution should be laid on the table, which was carried.

PLACE OF NEXT CONVENTION

A discussion then took place as to the next place of meeting.

A motion was made that the Association hold next year's convention at Claresholm and an amendment to the effect that it be held at Calgary. On Motion the amendment was declared lost and the original motion carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Chairman: I certainly think we have had a most successful convention that we have yet held; we have had splendid attendance, and the discussions have been most interesting and instructive. As your retiring president I certainly wish to thank you for the attention you have given to the chair since I have been occupying the position of your president. I may say that the work has certainly been very pleasant and I wish to assure you that in retiring as president I shall be very glad to help as a member for the next convention. I will now leave the meeting in the hands of the Secretary to call for nominations for President and Secretary and six Directors, three from south of Didsbury and three north of Didsbury.

HONORARY PRESIDENT and HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENT

Mr. McGorman: May I move the appointment of the Hon. Duncan Marshall as Honorary President and of Mr. Craig as Honorary Vice-President?

This motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT

Mr. Matkin: I have got a man in mind that I think is entitled to the position of President; he has been President now for two or three years, and he has handled the conventions well.* I think he attended the first meeting of this organization, and perhaps some of you do not know that this organization was started in a small room when only about 4 or 5 of us were present at that time: I think Mr. Fream, and Mr. Richardson and a few others were there. I nominate Mr. Richardson for President.

Mr. Cook: I second that.

Mr. Richardson: I am sure it is very kind of you indeed to mention my name, but I think it is in the best interests of the Association to change every two or three years; I have had it two years, and I am sure there are 20 men in this audience that could act quite as well as I, and I think that is what you should insist on.

A motion is offered that the nominations do now close which was carried unanimously, and the Secretary declares Mr. Richardson be elected Chairman.

The Chairman: It is certainly very kind of you; my opinion still holds but I will do the very best I can.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Mr. Hinckley nominates Capt. Evans for Vice-President. Messrs. West and Day are also nominated and the nominations are closed.

A vote was then taken and on being counted Captain H. J. Evans was declared elected Vice-President.

DIRECTORS

For the election of three directors for the section of the Province north of Didsbury Messrs. West, of Edmonton, Day of Red Deer, and Forester of Camrose are nominated, the nominations are declared closed and these three gentlemen are declared elected.

For the district south of Didsbury Messrs. Matkin of Magrath, Cook of Cochrane, McIntosh of Macleod, McRory of Crossfield and Knight of Millarville, are nominated and a vote is taken.

The Chairman: We have a tie for third place, before I mention any names is it agreeable to the convention to do as is sometimes done in other associations when there is a tie. to make up the number of directors we elect both of those that are ties, that has the effect of electing one more director for the year and then it goes back to the old number at the close of the year. Perhaps we better vote on it. Those in favor of electing those who are ties manifest it.

On a vote being taken the convention declares in favor of the Chairman's suggestion.

Messrs. Cook, Matkin, Knight and McIntosh are declared elected for the district south of Didsbury.

Mr. Cook: I have great pleasure in moving a resolution of thanks for the assistance and attendance of the Minister and of the officers of his department who have been of very great help to us in this convention.

The Motion is seconded and carried unanimously and with applause.

Mr. Hoover: I think it would be rather ungentlemanly if we dispersed without a hearty vote of thanks to the speakers who have come here and entertained us so well.

This Motion is seconded by Mr. Day and carried unanimously and with applause.

Votes of thanks are also unanimously passed to the Hotel Macdonald for the accommodation given to the convention and to the President and Secretary for their services, after which the meeting adjourned.

E. J. FREAM,
Secretary.

DIRECTORS' MEETING

At the close of the Annual Convention, the newly-elected Board of Directors held a meeting under the Chairmanship of the President, Mr. E. L. Richardson, all members of the Board being present.

Captain Evans moved and Mr. Day seconded: That E. J. Fream be reappointed Secretary-Treasurer of the Association. Carried unanimously.

Captain Evans moved and Mr. Cook seconded: That Messrs. Scott & Stuart, Chartered Accountants, be reappointed Auditors for the Association. Carried unanimously.

It was agreed that the policy of arranging for outside speakers to attend the convention was a good one, and that this practice should be followed in the future.

There being no other business the meeting then adjourned.

E. J. FREAM,
Secretary.

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